

Separates flow cut off

SAMARRA, Turkey (AP) — President Turgut Ozal pushed a button Saturday cutting the flow of the Euphrates River to Iraq and Iraq. The message was to a Turkish reservoir but threatened to influence tensions in the region (see page 2). "Starting with the name of Allah All-Purifying and for the benefit of our people," Ozal said as he pushed the button of the cut of a canal extending from a channel at the giant Ataturk Dam. During the one-month stoppage, Syria and Iraq will get less water from the tributaries of the Euphrates, the 2,500-kilometre-long river that has been the lifeline of the region since the time of ancient Mesopotamia. Cuneiform script carved on tablets in the region's ruins Saturday said 15,000 residents and construction workers worked the country at the dam site about 100 kilometres north of Syrian border. White, blue and pink clouds swirled from smoke bombs exploded on the opposite side of the river during the ceremony, as water gushed up the middle of the dam's three diversion channels. Once the greatest Anatolian project of 15 dams and 18 hydroelectric power plants is completed, Turkey will have a stronghold on the waters of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers.

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Arafat on 2nd Cairo visit this week

CAIRO (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Saturday on his second visit to Cairo this week for talks with Egyptian leaders on Middle East peace reports. Egypt's Middle East News Agency said Arafat was greeted at Cairo International airport by Osama Al Bar, head of President Hosni Mubarak's political office, and Palestinian officials. Arafat was in Cairo Jan. 9-11 and held talks with Mubarak, Foreign Minister Elwan Abdel Mawgud and other officials. The United States and Egypt have been trying to organize a dialogue between Israeli and Palestinian representatives in Cairo. But the effort received a setback this week when Washington reports spoke of difficulties delaying a meeting among the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States to prepare for the dialogue. The ministerial meeting originally was planned for this month. After talks with Arafat Tuesday, Abdul Meguid said that adequate preparations should precede the proposed peace negotiations.

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Kaddoumi: Time on the Palestinian side

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Saturday time was on the side of the Palestinians and not otherwise as propagated by Israel.

"Gone is the time when Israel used to gain credit for its bragging that it was an asset to the Western nations' strategy in the Middle East, trying to check the advance of communism in the region and defending oil supply routes and the Suez Canal," said Farouq Al Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Foreign Affairs Department.

"In the light of the current international developments and the ongoing intifada in occupied Palestine, I think that time is on the side of the PLO and working against Israel," Kaddoumi said upon leaving Amman following a four-day visit to Jordan.

"The Israelis have an illusion that they can put down the intifada through their various repressive means but the Palestinian people's uprising is bound to continue until Israel's occupation ends," Kaddoumi said in reply to reporters' questions at the airport.

The whole world, he said, "recognises the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, but Israel persists in

its intransigent stand, and both (Israeli Trade Minister Ariel) Sharon and (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir have not yet realised the dimension of development in the Palestinian and in the international arenas."

In reply to a question about Sharon's contention about Jordan was at the substitute homeland for the Palestinians, Kaddoumi said: "Sharon is a terrorist whose statements were condemned by various political circles, including those considered friendly to Israel."

Sharon's statements, he said, "are not more than nonsense which nobody accepts because the whole world recognises the State of Palestine on Palestinian soil."

Asked about Israel's unilateral moves to hold elections in the occupied territories, Kaddoumi said that "one has to remember what happened after the 1976 municipal elections. The result was that Israel assassinated or arrested the elected mayors of the West Bank towns."

His talks in Jordan, he said, were positive, reflecting the mutual understanding and favourable Jordanian response to the PLO's views.

Deputy Prime Minister and

Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi, who saw off Kaddoumi described the Jordanian-Palestinian talks as completely frank and characterised by mutual trust. Topics on the agenda covered means of maintaining cooperation and coordination between Jordan and the PLO to ensure further positive gains for the PLO at the regional, pan-Arab and international levels, Qasbi said.

The minister reiterated Jordan's total support for the PLO, which, he said, is being fully supported by the Arab Nation.

Kaddoumi's visit, Qasbi added, was one more stage in the process of Jordanian-PLO coordination. The PLO moves since November 1988 "constitute positive and clear steps designed to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East."

Qasbi said Jordan welcomed a Soviet initiative to mediate between Iran and Iraq, he said that Iraq always supported initiatives designed to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and had been extending a hand of peace to its neighbour.

"Let us hope," he said, "that this initiative will signal the beginning of a positive start of an end to the conflict."

1 killed in Tripoli bombings

BEIRUT (AP) — Three bombs exploded in the northern port of Tripoli Saturday during the morning rush hour, killing one person and wounding 10, soon after an explosive charge went off near the Saudi Arabian embassy in Beirut.

Scattered clashes were reported between rival forces in Beirut and South Lebanon, but no casualties were reported.

Police said a bomb swept Tripoli's central business section when the bombs detonated at a few minutes apart between 9 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. (0700 and 0715 GMT).

Police reported frightened motorists caused major traffic snarls as they tried to flee the area in Lebanon's second largest city, 80 kilometres north of Beirut.

The bombs, each containing an estimated three kilograms of TNT, were planted on sidewalks, police reported.

None of the feuding factions in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war claimed responsibility for the bombings.

But a police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said the attacks appeared to be aimed at undermining the Syrian military presence in Tripoli.

It has been policed by the Syrian army since 1983, when Syrian-backed dissident Palestinian groups forced Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) out of their last stronghold in Lebanon following Israel's 1982 invasion.

"All three explosions occurred 10 to 15 metres from a Syrian army checkpoint," the spokesman said.

There were similar bombing campaigns in West Beirut after Syrian troops deployed in February 1987 to end three years of anarchy by feuding militias.

Saturday's explosions shattered windows within a three-kilometre radius, leaving streets carpeted with glass shards, and damaged 14 cars, police reported.

They said the fatalities from the first blast was a 65-year-old electrical tools salesman. The other casualties were passers-by.

Tripoli's 850,000 inhabitants are mainly Sunni Muslims. The city's coordination committee, which runs day-to-day administrative affairs, blamed the bombings on the forces of rebel Christian leader Michel Aoun, who seeks to force the Syrian army out of Lebanon.

"This is the way the outlaw general sees fit to carry on his so-called war of liberation," the committee declared in a statement.

The two-kilogramme bomb in Beirut exploded late Friday night under a car parked 80 metres from the abandoned Saudi Arabian embassy in the residential Manara neighbourhood of west Beirut.

The explosions set several other cars on fire, but no casualties were reported.

The embassy was closed in 1985 after it was ransacked and burned by militants. They were protesting Saudi curbs on the number of Iranians allowed to make the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

Aoun's mainly Christian army units and Syrian-backed militias clashed with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades before dawn across Beirut's dividing green line.

Police reported no casualties in the one-hour firefight. But it underlined a marked increase in tension in the divided capital.

At least four people have been killed and 12 wounded in gunbattles along the demarcation line in the last week.

The violence has undermined an Arab League-brokered civil war cease-fire that took effect last September, ending six months of fierce artillery battles between Aoun's troops and the Syrians in which more than 900 people killed.

The hostilities reflect a worsening political crisis triggered by Aoun's defiance of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi's government, formed in November to try to end the war in which an estimated 150,000 people have been killed since 1975.

No tough measures needed to stop influx of Palestinians, deputies say

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Reports of a "worrying exodus" of Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to Jordan may be a reason for deep analysis and reassessment, and shed light on the true magnitude of the problem, but it does not yet require "tough measures to stop the exodus."

Although a reported 45,594 Palestinians have left the Israeli-occupied territories since mid-1983, only "a percentage of these have lost their right of return," said Mohammad Edwan, head of the Ministry of Interior's control and inspection department.

The cause for worry over this figure is that the larger number of these Palestinians left since the beginning of the uprising in the occupied West Bank in December 1987, indicating a definite connection between the deteriorating living conditions in the occupied territories as a result of the 26-month-old anti-occupation revolt and the flight of larger numbers of Palestinians from the territories.

According to Edwan, almost 24,000 Palestinians left the territories in 1989 and the 1988 figure shows an increase of 10,000 over the 1987 figure.

In answer to a Jordan Times question on the accuracy of these figures during a Lower House of Parliament session Saturday, Interior Minister Salem Masa'adeh could not confirm the figures given by Edwan but said: "If these figures are correct then this is a very sorrowful situation."

"I am sorry that such a high number of Palestinians would succumb to Israeli pressure... we hope that Palestinians would remain steadfast in their homeland," Masa'adeh said.

The minister added that the "plight of the Palestinians is also our plight... It is a human problem."

The Interior Ministry's department of control and inspection has been a target of strong public and parliamentary criticism since its creation immediately after Jordan's July 1988 decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank.

Deputies have been insisting on abolishing the department and minimising routine bureaucracy in crossing the bridges connecting Jordan with the occupied territories. Routine practices and inspection on these bridges have been seen as a form of "harassment" of

incoming Palestinians.

The release of the number of Palestinians crossing into Jordan since mid-1983 by the department is seen by some deputies "as an attempt to stop calls for making the crossing process easier."

According to Amman Deputy Taher Al Masri, "using the word exodus to describe the situation is aimed at defending an official policy" which would place more controls on the crossing of Palestinians into Jordan from the occupied territories. "This expression is really harmful," Masri said.

According to Masri, and several other deputies interviewed by the Jordan Times calls for facilitating the routines at these bridges are "humanitarian calls."

"These people stand in lines for hours and are routinely kept waiting and harassed by customs' officials," said Masri. "We are not calling for their migration to Jordan or opening the doors for a new population to come into the Kingdom," he said.

Edwan expressed his belief that this "transfer of the population is tragic," but according to parliamentarians interviewed by the Jordan Times "the tragedy lies in our (Arab) responsibility in this situation."

"These figures only indicate that there has to be a complete revision of the Arab strategy towards supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories," Deputy Husni Al Shiyab told the Jordan Times.

He added that Jordan's role in the support of the occupied territories "cannot be independent of a complete and comprehensive Arab strategy."

"Our policies so far are lame because they excluded the military option and did not develop it hand in hand with the political option," he added.

"This exodus, even if we call it that, is a reflection of a reality in the territories which has compelled the citizens there to abandon their positions in the struggle to seek security," Amman Deputy Fakhri Kassar said.

Asked if he felt that the Arab support for the Palestinian uprising was lacking Kassar said: "It is almost non-existent."

Edwan warned that the number of "migrating" Palestinians "is increasing day by day and month by month," and said those figures exclude students studying abroad and "those who left the territories for pressing personal reasons" such as illness.

Modrow faces strike threat

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — The threat of more strikes loomed as the next challenge to Communist Premier Hans Modrow after he tried to defuse a political crisis by scrapping plans for a new secret police network.

Modrow announced Friday that his government will not create the internal security agency before a democratically elected government takes office after elections May 6.

The move reversed his defiant defence of the plan a day earlier and met a major demand of East Germany's opposition.

"Through May 6, no offices will be created in this area," Modrow told a session of parliament.

He also set a June 30 deadline for dissolving the old state security agency, which the government said it would abolish last month.

The government announced price hikes for several non-food items in a first move to cut bloated state subsidies and dissuade foreign bargain-hunters.

His remarks, in an interview on West Germany's ZDF television network, elaborated on a broadly-worded offer Thursday to bring reform groups into a government coalition.

But even Friday's announcements appeared to give Modrow only a breathing space.

His government partners and the opposition are demanding proof of the old state security agency is being dismantled, and they are critical of a new draft election law.

Heated debate on those issues is likely at next Monday's session of talks between government and opposition, which Modrow is expected to attend in a further effort at conciliation.

If he fails to gain the opposition's confidence, recent politically motivated warning strikes could blossom into a major challenge by workers to the government.

Opposition sources said that a massive strike was being prepared in Gera, Karl-Marx-Stadt and other southern cities, if the stalemate in the negotiations continues.

SDP rejects coalition

The fledgling Social Democratic Party (SDP) ruled out a post-election coalition with Communists and said Saturday it wanted to form the next government with other opposition groups.

"The aim must now be to deprive the Communists of power," SDP spokesman Stephan Hilsberg told the party's first congress since it was formed last October.

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11 shot and wounded in occupied lands

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded 11 stone-throwing protesters in clashes in the Gaza Strip Saturday, hospital officials said.

Two Palestinians were killed by unknown assailants in the Gaza Strip but it was unclear if they were killed for nationalist or criminal motives.

Hospital officials said a 54-year-old man was stabbed to death in Gaza City Saturday. Residents said he was not known as a collaborator with the Israeli occupation authorities and at least two of his sons were in prison for anti-Israeli activity in the two-year-old Palestinian uprising.

A 40-year-old man was shot dead in the Bureij refugee camp late Friday, but the circumstances of the killing were unknown, residents said.

Israelis have killed at least 612 Palestinians during the uprising.

A Palestinian official was quoted on Saturday as saying the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) coordinated with Hamas, an Islamic movement in the occupied territories, but differed with it on how to fight Israel.

"Disagreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Hamas movement is not an ideological one but on how to conduct the struggle against the enemy," Hamd Al Hasan told the Qatari Al Raya newspaper.

His remarks were carried by the Qatari News Agency, monitored in Nicosia.

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Hasan, a member of the Central Committee of the mainstream PLO, said the PLO coordinated with Hamas and would welcome it joining the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

The PLO's role in the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has been challenged by Hamas, a radical secret movement which issues its own clandestine leaflets, calls for strikes and protests and has its own political covenant.

Bonn's aid

West Germany is to donate \$4.5 million towards a sewage project in the Bethlehem area, its biggest donation to Palestinians living in the occupied territories, Bonn's Ambassador to Jordan said Saturday.

The mayors of Bethlehem, Beit Sahour and Beit Jalla signed an agreement Saturday that finalised the deal.

West German Ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels arrived in Bethlehem from Amman to oversee the conclusion of the accord, already signed by the West German company GTZ on behalf of Bonn. Italy will donate a similar sum in equipment for the project.

"By all standards, it is the largest project we have financed until now in the occupied territories," Bartels told Reuters.

"There was a vital need for the implementation of this project," he said.

"They know of this project and they have been positive about it," he said.

The official news agency TASS said there were casualties in the Friday raids but gave no details.

Nagorno-Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian Christian enclave of some 160,000 people, has been under Azerbaijani control since 1923. Attempts to annex the enclave sparked unrest that left more than 200 dead in the past two years. The enclave was transferred briefly last year to

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Differences over strategy block PLO reunification

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Despite recent signals of a possible return of three Damascus-based Palestinian dissident groups to the folds of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), serious differences remain over the Palestinian peace strategy.

According to Palestinian officials, the Syrian-backed factions, which oppose the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, are still insisting on dropping the 13-month-old Palestinian peace strategy as a basic precondition for reconciliation.

The groups, including Saika, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and Fateh-Uprising, are demanding a return to the 1964 Palestinian charter, which calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state in all of Palestine.

"We welcome their return but the gap is wide and so far we do not see any serious steps taken towards reconciliation," a PLO official said.

The PFLP-GC and Saika broke away in 1983 after supporting a Syrian-backed mutiny against Arafat's leadership of the mainstream Fateh movement. The rift was further deepened by differences over Arafat's peace moves

and since then the breakaway groups have boycotted the sessions of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

Two weeks ago, however, reports from Damascus said that the former-PNC speaker, Khaled Fahoum, had launched a reconciliation initiative. PLO officials in Tunis immediately welcomed the initiative and said that the representatives of these groups could attend any future meeting of the PNC.

The reports gave way to speculation that Syria has finally decided to disengage itself from "internal Palestinian rivalries" and that the dissident groups have decided to rejoin the PLO party for fear of isolation.

But, according to Palestinian officials in Damascus, the dissident group's position seems to have been hardened by the failure of peace efforts to realise any tangible progress.

They said that Fahoum, who has been heading the Palestine National Salvation Front coalition since 1985, had actually included very clear preconditions to his initiative.

They said that Fahoum's initiative called for a reunification on the basis of commitment to the PLO charter and all of the resolutions of the PNC except those

adopted in 1984, 1987 and 1988.

"It should not be understood that our position is that let bygones be bygones; reunification should be based on a new Palestinian strategy," Omar Shihab, a senior PFLP-GC official, told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Shihab said that these preconditions were included in Fahoum's initiative, which the former PNC speaker put forward three weeks ago during a Palestinian political initiative, but Fahoum's initiative was contained in a speech he made three weeks ago, "the Palestinian official said."

The short-sighted leadership which has given many concessions should reassess its position, he said. "We should not be the ones to reassess our position."

PLO officials in Tunis, however, said that such conditions were unacceptable. "Arafat has a very positive attitude towards reconciliation but he would not accept any preconditions," a PLO official said.

The demand by the dissident groups that the PLO should reconsider its strategy coincides with internal Palestinian pressures, mainly by the PFLP of Dr. George Habash to hold a PNC session to reassess the organisation's approach to peace.

Romania postpones elections after outlawing Communists

BUCHAREST (Agencies) — A top official of the National Peasants' Party said Saturday that Romanian President Ion Iliescu had agreed the first free elections in 43 years should be delayed to give opposition parties more time to organise.

Ion Barbus, vice-president of the Peasants' Party, said it and other emerging political groups had reached agreement with Iliescu and the ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) but that no precise date had been fixed.

"The president and the NSF agree in principle that the elections should be set at a later date but it is not yet official and no date has been fixed," Barbus told Reuters.

"We would like elections to be held between July and September to give us time to organise properly," he added.

The NSF, which took power after Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was overthrown in a popular revolution last month, had pledged to hold elections in April.

Thousands of anti-communist demonstrators shouted "victory" after President Ion Iliescu told them the party was outlawed,

three weeks after the violent revolution that toppled Nicolae Ceausescu.

"The front is with us," demonstrators in the crowd of 5,000 people yelled, referring to the NSF. Iliescu's announcement was broadcast live on state radio and television.

The announcement came hours after the crowd had shouted down Iliescu and other leaders who tried to speak. Demonstrators yelled "Down with communism" and "kill the Communists."

They burned a Romanian Communist flag and Communist identification papers.

Friday was a national day of mourning, with religious ceremonies held across the country in memory of the victims of the revolution.

Iliescu, himself a former Communist, made the announcement from the window of the building where the interim government has its headquarters on the Victoria Square.

Romanian Communist Party is outlawed, considering that it is against the national spirit and our ancestor's law," he said.

Iliescu however did not say what the decision would mean for

current members of the party. Much of Romania's new leadership is composed of Communists.

Before the Communists took power in 1948 Romania was ruled by a constitutional monarchy.

Romania's newly appointed general prosecutor George Robu told Romanian TV Friday all leading members of the Romanian Communist Party were under arrest and their role in the Ceausescu regime was under investigation. He said the trials would begin within 10 days.

He said Ceausescu's children and brothers, who were arrested in the first days of the revolt, would be brought to trial soon.

Iliescu also told the crowd that a national referendum would be held Jan. 28 on whether the death sentence should be reinstated for members of Ceausescu's hated security police.

The feared Securitate continued to battle the army even after Ceausescu was overthrown Dec. 22 by popular revolt.

Ceausescu was executed with his wife Elena, considered no. 2 in the party, on Dec. 25. The

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Iraq to match Iranian prisoner release

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq will free 50 disabled Iranian prisoners of war (PoWs) to match a similar release by Tehran, the first PoW exchange in more than a year, Red Cross officials said Saturday.

The move came amid support by both sides for a Soviet proposal to mediate peace talks that have been deadlocked virtually since they started Aug. 25, 1988, five days after a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire halted the eight-year Gulf war.

But U.N. officials who have sought in vain to revive the negotiations say deep differences still remain over implementation of the U.N. Security Council's ceasefire resolution.

The disputes have left an estimated 100,000 captives held by both sides languishing in PoW camps. Some of them have been held since the early stages of the war that broke out in September 1980.

The International Committee of the Red Cross officials said the Iranians would be freed after the 50 Iraqis were released and flown to Baghdad.

Iran's ambassador to the United Nations, Kamal Kharrazi, announced in New York earlier this week that Tehran would release the ailing Iraqi captives and said he hoped Iraq would reciprocate.

One of the Red Cross officials said the Iraqi authorities have "promised to reciprocate with the release of an equal number."

The Iraqi PoWs are scheduled to be set free Wednesday, the officials said. The ICRC supervises prisoner exchanges between the two Gulf countries.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a Swiss airliner has been chartered to fly the Iraqis to Baghdad.

U.N. officials have registered 55,000 PoWs held by Iran and 19,500 by Iraq. But they believe the total held by both sides is about 100,000.

The 1948 Geneva Convention stipulates that all prisoners of war should be released when hostilities cease. But the captives held by the two sides have become pawns in the political manoeuvring by Iran and Iraq.

In 1988, the two sides exchanged about 400 disabled and ailing prisoners. But the operation collapsed in November of that year amid charges by both sides of falsifying the number of captives seeking asylum.

Earlier this month Iraqi President Saddam Hussein offered to restart the peace talks, adding that Iraq was ready to exchange all disabled and sick prisoners.

Bulgarian talks reach accord on ethnic issue

SOFIA (R) — Bulgarian nationalists, Muslims and government and opposition representatives have reached an agreement aimed at defusing ethnic tension.

An 11-point document, produced after five days of talks, set out a list of proposals including the right of all Bulgarians to choose their own names and practice any religion.

"Nobody has the right to force any one to change his name, but if anyone elects to alter it of their own free will they should be guaranteed the right to do so," the document said.

It added that a special law on the right to choose names should be passed by the end of next month.

Vasil Murchkov, vice president of the state council, told a news conference after the talks that the draft document would be finalised and submitted to parliament.

The five-day talks were hastily arranged last Sunday after tens of thousands of Bulgarians demonstrated against the Communist authorities' decision to reverse an assimilation campaign against the country's 1.5 million ethnic Turks and other Muslims.

The campaign, which prompted an exodus of more than 300,000 ethnic Turks from Bulgaria to Turkey last summer, forced ethnic Turks and other Muslims to adopt Bulgarian names and curbed their religious practices.

Opposition activists who attended the talks said the document was intended to clarify certain parts of the constitution concerning citizens' ethnic rights and allay fears in some Bulgarian

provinces that the large ethnic Turkish population would seek autonomy.

"We hope that this declaration will pacify people's emotions," said Zhelyu Zhelev, leader of the Union of Democratic Forces, an umbrella body including the country's 11 main opposition groups.

"There are certain guarantees in the declaration for the regions where the people fear most insecure and threatened."

Mincho Minchev, spokesman of the Union for the Protection of National Interests which had protested against the reversal of the assimilation campaign, told Western journalists he accepted the agreement unconditionally.

He said he believed a wave of anti-Turkish strikes and demonstrations that took place last week would end.

In an apparent attempt to reassure Bulgarians that their rights were not threatened by concessions to ethnic minorities, the document stressed that the country's sovereignty should be safeguarded, and no citizen should have the right to hoist a foreign flag.

It added that Bulgarian would remain the official language in educational institutions and public associations as well as for official documents.

"In other places of everyday communication and personal relations people can use whatever language they like," the document said.

The document also went some way towards placating nationalists who had demanded a referendum or a moratorium on the

ethnic issue by proposing that a parliamentary commission, headed by Bulgarian leader Petar Mladenov, should be formed to examine the question.

"This parliamentary commission should work out a complete programme so that lasting national policy can be carried out for a change in the constitution and present legislation," it said.

The programme should be drawn up "with broad discussion by the people."

Union of Democratic Forces spokesman Petar Beron said that while ethnic Turks were already free to use their original names in private, changing them officially would take longer.

"Until new identity cards and other documents are issued they can't be used in legal matters," he told the news conference.

Although the various groups attending the talks in Sofia reached agreement on the document, some Bulgarians said they feared the consensus would not filter through to the provinces where the ethnic tension is at its highest.

"In practical terms this is neither a step forward nor a step back — it's a step to the side," one Bulgarian commented after the talks.

"If the nationalists are dissatisfied with the decision I am 90 per cent sure there will be more protests," said Vesselin Vulchev, a Bulgarian from the south-eastern town of Kurdzhali who said he had been ostracised at home for his support of ethnic Turks.

"I'm not saying the situation is dangerous, but it's unpleasant," he said.

Baghdad to send envoy to Ankara on water cut-off

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government will send a senior envoy to Ankara Sunday to seek to persuade Turkish authorities to shorten a planned month-long cut in the flow of the Euphrates River, officials reported Saturday.

Ministry of Irrigation and Agriculture officials said First Under-Secretary Abdul Sattar Salman would head a high-level delegation to the Turkish capital to discuss problems arising from cutting the Euphrates flow.

The move, the second Iraqi mission to Ankara in as many weeks, was announced as the Turks were scheduled to halt the flow to fill up the reservoir at the giant Ataturk hydroelectric dam in southeastern Anatolia province.

That will drastically reduce the amount of water flowing south to Syria and Iraq. Their dependence on the Euphrates has heightened in recent years when they, like other countries in the arid region, have been hit by drought.

The river will not be totally blocked, as tributaries below the Ataturk Dam will still provide some water.

There was no immediate reaction from Damascus to Saturday's scheduled cut-off, which will reduce the normal flow of 500 cubic metres a second to about one-fourth of that level.

The senior irrigation official in Al Qaim, near the Syrian border where the Euphrates runs into Iraq, told the Associated Press by telephone that the water level registered early Saturday was 163 cubic metres a second.

That was understood to be well below the normal level for this time of year, taking the lack of rain into account.

The Euphrates has an average annual discharge of 31 million cubic metres. But last year that level had been expected to drop to 17 million cubic metres, less than Iraq's needs for irrigation in the central Mesopotamian plain south of Baghdad.

Turkey has said it will resume the Euphrates normal flow of 500 cubic metres of water a second to Syria Feb. 13. The level of the river when it reaches Iraq, 480 kilometres to the southeast, is considerably lower.

Iraq is less dependent on the Euphrates than Syria because it also has the Tigris River, which has an average flow of 42,000 cubic metres a year.

The Iraqis have said that the Euphrates cut-off will not trigger a major disaster, but stress it could cause widespread agricultural damage and will sharply reduce wheat and rice yields in the central and southern regions of the country.

The government sent Deputy Foreign Minister Nizar Hamdoun to Ankara last month to ask Turkey to reduce the cut-off to two weeks instead of the 30 days announced by Ankara.

But the Turks have not responded and gone ahead with plans to block the river to fill the newly built Ataturk reservoir so they can start up the dam's huge generators.

President Saddam Hussein met Wednesday with the leadership of the ruling Baath Socialist Party and the Revolutionary Command Council to discuss the issue and take "the necessary political and technical precautions" to handle the situation, Baghdad's official media reported.

It gave no details of what measures would be taken to face the water cut.



AN ISRAELI army jeep (foreground) clears a roadblock as Israeli soldiers stand in the background after troops had killed two Palestinians in the occupied West Bank last week. The roadblock was erected to make access to the village difficult. A U.N. vehicle (back right) waits to pass.

Maghreb ministers study integration

TUNIS (R) — The foreign ministers of five Maghreb countries began talks on closer regional integration and joint negotiations with the European Community (EC) Friday in advance of an Arab Maghreb Union summit later in the month.

The union, set up last February by Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia, hopes to transform itself into a regional common market.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Escheikh told the ministers in an opening session that the union had made a promising start by putting in place most of the common institutions.

"A new stage on the road to unionist action will start today in Tunis... it is our task to find the best means to strengthen our regional grouping," he added.

Tunisian official said two of the most important proposals prepared by junior ministers earlier this week were to create a permanent secretariat for the union and to talk as a group with the European Community on matters such as trade and emigration.

The union now has only a small secretariat which follows the rotating chairmanship. Morocco has held the chair since February

and is the process of handing over to Tunisia.

The five countries are likely to contest the siting of the permanent secretariat. Algeria and Morocco are at a disadvantage because of the dispute over the Western Sahara, where Moroccan troops are fighting Polisario guerrillas traditionally supported by Algeria.

The five heads of state have agreed to meet in Tunis from Jan. 21 to 23 to look at their foreign ministers' proposals.

But Tunisia had to postpone the summit twice because first King Hassan of Morocco and then Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said they could not make dates previously announced.

The timetabling difficulties undermined the union's vulnerability to the whims of its leaders, diplomats said.

GCC to review changes

The Arab Gulf ministers will meet in Muscat Monday to discuss the effects on Arab states of the political and economic changes sweeping the world, the Gulf News Agency (GNA) said.

Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Almoayyed, Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

Yousef Ben Alawi Abdullah and Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jassim Mohammed Al Khorafi would take part in the meeting, the first of its kind, GNA said.

Gulf officials say the tripartite committee — formed by leaders of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) at their annual summit Muscat last December — will try to formulate policies to cope with new trends worldwide.

The changes include the unified European market in 1992, superpower détente, and political upheavals in Eastern Europe.

The GCC, a political and economic alliance, comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwait, the only GCC country with a parliamentary tradition, is in the throes of heated debate on the advantages and disadvantages of reviving its dissolved parliament following a series of vocal pro-democracy demonstrations.

The Kuwaiti government has ruled out a reinstatement of parliament, dissolved in 1962, but has said it may soon lift censorship imposed on the country's media more than three years ago and was considering new ways of

popular participation in government and legislation.

Gulf newspapers in the past few weeks have repeatedly urged Arab governments to respond to democratic changes in Eastern Europe.

"The virus of democracy will spread in the Arab World, and it will enter cities and villages either peacefully or through uprisings," the Sharjah-based Al Khaleej said Thursday.

"Will we (Arabs) forever remain a nation with its sons and daughters prevented from practising their freedom of speech, thought, work and self-determination?" the paper asked.

Officials within the GCC countries say political changes will come but slowly and will be guided by their governments.

"No-one wants to see a repeat of what happened in Romania, with thousands of people killed, changes will occur but in the next 15-20 years," one official said recently.

Bahrain's daily Al Ayyam Saturday quoted Abdullah Al Quwaiz, assistant secretary general of the GCC for financial affairs, as saying the ministers "will study a working plan towards these developments."

Few government officials survive criticism by Somali party paper

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalis are queuing up to ogle headlines in Ogaal, the tough-talking tabloid of the country's ruling party, and read all about its latest swipes at the government.

The six-page weekly paper of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party has spent months lambasting top government officials for their shortcomings — and few of those named have survived its criticism.

People who normally show little interest in the country's tightly controlled press are suddenly becoming newspaper addicts. Every Friday morning they jostle to snap up the latest edition of Ogaal. Latecomers offer huge sums for photocopies.

Last year Ogaal blamed the central bank governor for a cash shortage and the disappearance

from circulation of new 500 shilling notes. He was fired after a few hard-hitting editorials.

The chief of police was the next to go. Ogaal then turned its guns on the cabinet — denouncing two ministers each week for alleged corruption and inefficiency.

Just as readers were beginning to wonder who there was left to attack apart from President Mohammad Siad Barre himself, Ogaal declared in an editorial last Friday that the entire government should resign "because it had failed to tackle the country's social and economic problems."

Siad Barre announced four days later that he had dissolved the government and would shortly form a new administration.

The president, who has ruled Somalia with an iron hand for the past 20 years, is widely assumed

to be the author of Ogaal's stinging attacks on members of the government.

Official sources said Commerce Minister Abdulkassim Salah Hassan told a cabinet meeting he was prepared to expose the true author of Ogaal's tirades.

He then grinned broadly at the president.

Somalia's shortcomings are real enough.

The poverty-stricken country of nomadic herdsmen is torn by civil war and the government is riddled with corruption.

Most Western aid donors have suspended aid to Somalia in protest at human rights violations by the government's security forces and the regular diversion of development funds into the pockets of senior officials.

Egyptian dig finds dwarf

Giza, Egypt (R) — Experts have uncovered the bones and statue of a dwarf named Pr-N-Ankh who was the companion of Egypt's pharaoh 4,000 years ago.

The basalt figure, brought out of a sealed vault on Thursday, is about 40 centimetres high and shows him seated on a chair, his left arm across his chest.

He holds a long stick resembling an oar. His other hand, resting on his lap, holds an instrument resembling a spatula, indicating he was a high official.

Zahi Hawass, director-general of the Giza Pyramids area outside Cairo, the man who directed the dig, calls the statue "wonderful, unique."

Only one previous statue of a dwarf has been found in Giza, a statue named Seneb, discovered in the early 1900s. The tombs were near each

other and Hawass says the diggers may now have located a burial ground of dwarfs in Giza.

Little is known about dwarfs in ancient Egypt. Hawass said some were jesters who entertained royalty. Others held official posts like Seneb the Scribe.

Hieroglyphic inscriptions said Pr-N-Ankh was "a close associate of the king in the great palace."

Pr-N-Ankh's statue was found by Mahmoud Afifi, an antiquities inspector.

Afifi told Reuters he stumbled on a six-metre tomb four months ago while removing sand from nearby burial chambers and uncovered two statues of women, now believed to be Pr-N-Ankh's wives.

Thigh bones of a dwarf were in one of the tomb's three shafts but Pr-N-Ankh's nearby serdab or vault, with its fac-

inating stone figure and the inscriptions on its walls, was uncovered only last week.

"I looked through a spy hole in the serdab and saw the statue of the dwarf," Afifi said.

Archaeologists said they did not know why the dwarf official was holding an oar or what it meant, or why his serdab was outside his tomb, not inside it as was customary in the age.

"It is the first time we find a serdab in the old kingdom outside the tomb. Serdabs were always found inside tombs of employees," Hawass said.

"The only serdabs we have found outside the tombs were those of royalty. This discovery is unique."

Hawass and Afifi also found clay and alabaster urns and plates, five unusual-looking sacrificial columns and pieces of wood, probably part of a small chair or bed for the dwarf.

JORDAN TELEVISION

14:30 'Asr
14:54 Maghreb
15:15 'Isha

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
15:50 Football
16:00 News summary in Arabic
16:05 Local programme
16:10 Cultural programme
16:15 Local programme
16:20 Programme review
16:25 News in Hebrew
16:30 Varieties programme
16:35 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Tel Peta Tel Film
17:35 L'ecole de Sam
17:40 News in French
17:45 Documentary
17:50 News in Hebrew
17:55 Varieties programme
18:00 News in Arabic
18:05 Who's the Boss?
18:10 "The Struggle for Democracy"
18:15 News in English
18:20 Game Set and Match

PRAYER TIMES

05:11 Fajr
06:32 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:43 Dhuhr

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810740
Assumption of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Torrestrata Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625841
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assuan International Church Tel. 683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654922

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Weak and stable air mass is affecting the area; so it will be partly cloudy with

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Khaldoun Kloba 626919
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Kouta 673940
Dr. Youssef Rashed 846301
Dr. Wael Kharabli 669917
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asana pharmacy 637055

NIGHT DUTY

possible scattered showers, especially in the southern region of the Kingdom. Winds will be light and variable becoming at times southeasterly moderate. In Amman, it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 622228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 608900
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Ammunition 608900
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Al-Haram Medical Centre 81281322
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Akshid Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mafes, J. Amn. 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 6641714
Shamsi Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munir Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abadi 6651707
Al-Ahl, Abadi 6641646
Isfahan, Al-Mahajreen 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Amn. 7751126
Army, Marzi 39161715
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
ZARQA Govt. Hospital (09)83323

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Central Amman Telephone

Repair 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815015
Electric Power 636381
Company 6651707
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)3200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
09:10 Jeddah (RJ)
09:10 Kuwait (RJ)
09:15 Sanaa (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
17:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:20 Paris (RJ)

ZARQA NATIONAL HOSPITAL

09991071
RJ Sin Hospital (09)98732
RJ Sin Hospital (09)98732

PRINCESS BASMA HOSPITAL

02775535
Great Catholic Hospital (02)77275
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:35 Dubai (AZ)
10:45 Cairo (MS)
12:30 Kuwait (KU)
15:45 Tripoli (LN)
16:35 Athens (OA)
19:25 Frankfurt (LH)
19:35 Beirut (ME)
06:35 London (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
11:20 Larnaca (RJ)
11:30 Istanbul, Vienna (RJ)
12:45 Cairo (RJ)
13:40 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
14:00 Sanaa (RJ)
14:15 Beirut (RJ)
14:20 Cairo (RJ)
14:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
15:45 Sanaa (RJ)
16:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
17:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:20 Paris (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:35 Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)
17:45 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
17:55 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:00 London (RJ)
18:45 Rome (RJ)
19:25 Beirut (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:35 Damascus, Paris (RJ)
09:35 Rome (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
11:30 Kuwait (RJ)
14:45 Athens (OA)
17:20 London (BA)
20:25 Sanaa (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in \$/kg per kg
Apple 420/380
Banana 450/400
Banana (Mukawana) 400/350
Beans 500/400
Cabbage 200/150
Carrot 150/100
Cauliflower 150/100
Cucumbers (large) 200/150
Cucumbers (small) 350/300
Dates 300/250
Eggplant 150/100
Garlic 800/700
Grapefruit 150/100
Lemon 200/150
Marrow (large) 120/80
Marrow (small) 200/150
Onion (dry) 200/150
Onion (green) 160/120
Orange 200/150
Orange (Shamsi) 320/280
Pepper (hot) 350/300
Pepper (sweet) 400/350
Potato 250/200
Radish 120/80
Sage 450/400
Spinach 350/300
Tomatoes 180/140

Ministry of Information studies plans to revamp role, structure

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In line with the changes in the political climate in Jordan, the Ministry of Information, which is the main guiding light for information dissemination in the Kingdom, is considering plans to revamp itself and modify its role, according to Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin.

"So far this is a very internal study but we are debating ways to change the nature of the ministry but it is not going to be abolished as some reports suggested," Izzeddin told the Jordan Times Saturday.

Some of the ideas which are under consideration include ways to give the government-controlled Jordan television and radio more autonomy and make the official news agency, Petra, more independent, according to the minister.

"Television is already autonomous but we are thinking of changing it from a government to a national station," he said. But he could not give details on exactly how that would translate in practical terms since the study "is very much in its preliminary stages."

According to a report carried by Radio Monte Carlo, the ministry is considering a plan to separate itself from radio and television, which will be directly administered and operated by a board of directors. The radio said the proposed changes were expected to be brought into effect with

what it described as "an expected reshuffle" of the government.

The minister expressed hope that Petra, the only source of official information until now, would become "similar to an international news agency," which would report on events as it sees fit, in order to transform Petra into "a more professional organisation," the minister intends to consult the three local dailies for advice and proposals, Izzeddin said.

The minister confirmed that suggestions had been made that Petra be turned into a shareholding company but said: "This is very premature at this point." He declined to give a specified time-frame for the expected changes.

Petra usually reports government decisions, official meetings and issues handed on government level in terse statements without elaboration or explanation. On many instances, its coverage of official events are more of a ceremonial nature than information.

The agency has not been known to cover sensitive issues such as the economic crisis, political scandals or other controversial topics. But first indications that the agency might be changing its philosophy came during the three-day Lower House of Parliament session on the government programme last month when it carried full texts of speeches highly critical of Prime Minister Mudar Badran. A wave of

openness also seemed to have invaded Jordan Television, when it screened parts of deputies' addresses which took the government to task over economic and political issues.

The ministry itself is planning to redefine its function, Izzeddin said Saturday. "The ministry has gone through dramatic changes in the last few months in line with the liberalisation process in the country," he said. "Now the press is free; we no longer issue the guidelines."

The ministry will continue to give regular briefing to journalists but "they can use it or not use it as they deem fit," Izzeddin said. The same applies for reports carried by Petra, and "we do not insist that the papers carry our reports," he said.

During the past era of restrictive journalism which started with the government assuming control of the three major newspaper establishments in the Kingdom, any information emanating from the Ministry of Information was expected to be treated as, in the words of an official, "gospel" and be carried with no elaboration or explanation of the issue involved. Local editors recall dozens of occasions when they were told to use "only the Petra version" of the story. However, the system took a distinct turn after the interim government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, which took power in April this year and



Ibrahim Izzeddin

maintained a more-or-less laissez-faire approach to the newspapers.

The ministry used to hold regular meetings to instruct the local press about what was permissible for publication and what was not and had watchdogs at all the three papers until early last month when the Badran government reversed the August 1988 decision and returned the control of the newspapers to its former managers. However, the government still retains controlling interest in the papers.

Izzeddin said that there was no longer any censorship of the press by the Ministry of Information and newspapers can "print what they want." But, foreign publications entering Jordan will be scrutinised, he said.

Conceding that ministries of information usually exist in countries which find a need to "control" information, the minister said: "Yes, it is true that they exist in developing countries and not in developed ones. In our case it is a title but the role has changed."

Heated debate over disengagement delays decision on ministry abolition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A decision by the Lower House of Parliament's Legal Committee to approve a 1988 law which abolished the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs stirred heated debate at the House session Saturday.

Following the Kingdom's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, the law was issued last year cancelling the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs and transforming it into a department affiliated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Deputy Hussein Mujalli, chairman of the Legal Committee, openly declared his total opposition to the cancellation of the ministry and the severance of links with the West Bank.

"The Kingdom's decision taken in 1988 is tantamount to a total separation of people belonging to the same nation," Mujalli contended.

He said the first article of the Constitution states that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent united and inseparable Kingdom with its people living on both banks of the River Jordan as one unit.

The text of the first article of the constitution is as follows: "The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent sovereign Arab state. It is indivisible and

inalienable and no part of it may be ceded. The people of Jordan form a part of the Arab Nation, and its system of government is parliamentary with a hereditary monarchy."

Mujalli said: "Since the people on both banks have never been separated and since Parliament decided in 1950 to reaffirm this historic fact, then there can be no power which can abrogate such a decision."

"Unity of Jordan's two banks is a national necessity and is more needed now in the course of liberating the occupied territories," Mujalli said. "Through unity we are stronger in the process of liberation and since unity requires removal of all elements that tend to divide the united people and since we are all for national unity I here declare my strong opposition to the government's decision to cancel the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs."

Mujalli's views received a mixed reaction from several deputies, including Mohammad Abu Fares, the committee's rapporteur, who said that the session was called to discuss only the question of cancelling the law and not the severance issue.

But Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who attended Saturday's session, said that the creation of

the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs was purely for administrative and not for political reasons.

Deputy Abdul Rahim Ukour suggested that the question of severing ties with the West Bank should be discussed at a special session, and therefore a final decision was not taken on this point Saturday.

The prime minister was asked to comment on an incident in which a man was killed near the Jordanian-Syrian border and said that the man, Walid Hassan Samir, was killed during an attempt to infiltrate into Jordanian territory.

The man was shot by Jordanian patrols when he failed to respond to a call to stop, the prime minister said.

He made it clear that this might happen again in any attempt to infiltrate into Jordanian territory through illegitimate means.

The House endorsed a law cancelling the Amman Development Corporation.

Other issues

Deputies discussed several other issues and some put forward a number of proposals calling for the Arabisation of university education, returning dis-

missed students who were studying on scholarships, stopping the process of merging the Irbid Community College for girls with the mixed community college at Huwara, issuing health insurance cards for needy workers, and the appointment of a governor for the Central Bank of Jordan who would be decided on by the Lower House of Parliament.

Other proposals included the opening of a government hospital at Ruseifa, providing homes for teachers in remote areas like Maan and Aqaba and paying government employees salaries on weekly basis.

The House Financial Committee adopted a series of measures designed to encourage public involvement in the process of introducing amendments to laws of financial nature.

At the end of the session, the committee issued a statement appealing to intellectuals, scholars and university professors concerned with financial issues to come forward with ideas and proposals on ways to handle issues on the committee's agenda. The statement said that the committee would soon issue a public statement summing up its deliberations on the proposed amendments to the Income Tax Law.

Charity event highlights needs of the retarded

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day charity event opened here Saturday to focus public attention on the needs of mentally retarded children. The festival, held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, was organised by

the Jassaf Corporation for Special Education. Handicapped children presented national songs and dances at the event.

The Queen, who attended the opening event, toured a bazaar section displaying embroideries,

clothes, artificial flowers and other home appliances prepared by the relatives of the handicapped children and volunteers.

According to the organisers, the proceeds of the bazaar will benefit the corporation's chari-

table projects. The corporation's director, Rabea Al Wazani, delivered a brief speech expressing appreciation of the Queen's support for charity work and presenting her with the corporation shield.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

FARMERS PRESENT DRAFT LAW: The Jordan Farmers Association (JFA) has presented to the Ministry of Agriculture a new draft law for the JFA for onward presentation to the Supreme Agricultural Council when it convenes, according to the Arab-language Al-Dustour paper reported. The draft law provides for establishing ten agricultural unions that would come under the umbrella of an association located in Amman. JFA President Tala Ghazawi said. He added that the JFA presented to Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabyat a memorandum including farmers' problems and proposal to solve them (J.T.)

JORDAN-SYRIA TRADE: Syrian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Mohammad Amadi has discussed with Jordanian Ambassador to Syria Nayef Hadid economic cooperation and means to develop trade between the two countries. During a meeting they held in Damascus Saturday, they discussed preparations for the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Syrian follow-up committee which will convene early next week to pave the way for the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meetings.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS: Municipal election for Jdaydeh township in Karak Governorate will be held March 29. A voter registration committee Saturday began preparing lists of voters (Petra).

APPEAL TO MERCHANTS: The Amman Chamber of Trade Saturday appealed to Amman merchants to cooperate with the Greater Amman Municipality to keep the capital clean and tidy to visitors and tourists. The appeal followed a meeting between Greater Amman Mayor Ali Subeiat and the chamber of trade broad of directors (Petra).

CIVIL DEFENCE COURSE: A total of 25 women from the Princess Basma Centre for Social Services in Zarqa Governorate Saturday concluded a course in civil defence. The week-long course introduced the participants to matters related to first aid, rescue operations, and firefighting as well as the role of the Civil Defence Department in preserving public safety (Petra).

RADIO, TV COURSE: A total of 26 new employees at the radio and television stations Saturday enrolled in a training course. The two-week course includes theoretical and practical training as well as field visits to radio and television studios to get introduced to the nature of work (Petra).

AOAD MEETING: Jordan will participate in the meetings of the Council of Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) which will convene in Tripoli, Libya, Tuesday on ministerial level. The three-day meeting will review the AOAD achievements in 1989, the 1990-1991 budget as well as future plans that serve objectives of agricultural development strategy in the Arab countries. The delegation will be led by Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabyat and include Director of Agricultural Economy and Planning Sa'ud Zahair (Petra).

EDUCATION GUIDELINES: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairperson of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) board of trustees, has recommended publishing a study prepared by Samar Dudin Karajeh to provide guidelines to those in charge of educating children, specialists, and those interested in this field. The study, entitled "Employing Drama in Education," is designed to familiarise children with collective work, promote their mental capabilities, and develop their abilities to face problems (Petra).

Fariz to lead team to AOID conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, convening Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved Jordan's participation in meetings of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) scheduled to convene in Baghdad Tuesday. A delegation led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz will represent Jordan at the meeting. The Cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in the 44th

Small proportion of arable land forested

AMMAN (J.T.) — Only a small proportion of arable land in Jordan, nearly 736,000 dunums, is covered with trees and other vegetation, and fires destroy nearly 30,000 trees annually, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and published in the local press Saturday.

The bulletin said that the concerned authorities have collected JD 87,230 in 1988 in fines imposed on people causing fires through negligence. The bulletin, issued on the eve of the country's Arbor Day celebrations, said that the ministry's nurseries now produce nearly 13 million forest tree seedlings on an annual basis of which 50 per cent are planted by ministry teams at afforestation zones while the rest is distributed to various schools, government departments and organisations to be planted around their premises. A total of 189,000 dunums of land are now

planted with forest trees but the ministry is aiming to green all areas in the country by the year 2000, the bulletin said.

The bulletin was issued at a time when the Ministry of Agriculture is reported making preparations for tree planting celebrations to be conducted in various parts of Jordan with the main event to be held Jan. 15 at Juzzeh near the Queen Alia International Airport under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

This year, the ministry plans to focus attention on greening areas around the Amman-Aqaba desert highway by planting trees with five rows along each side of a 30 kilometre stretch out of a total of 300 kilometres extending between Amman and the seaport, the bulletin said.

Areas of a 50 kilometre stretch of the highway have already been planted by Maan, Tafleh and Karak governorates.

IPA plans enhanced training programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) will begin a wide scope training and seminar programme starting next Saturday to improve the skill and performance of government employees in various public administration sectors in the country, according to IPA Director-General Abdullah Ulayyan.

The programme, which has been endorsed by the IPA board of directors, provides for short- and medium-term training courses to employees at different levels and is intended to benefit all departments, Ulayyan said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Courses ranging from performance evaluation and report preparations, supervision of work by

other employees, correspondence for government offices, dealing with the public, cooperation among various units of a government department and office accounting will be given in the new year 1990, Ulayyan added.

He said seminars and symposiums for government employees on public administration and studies and research work would also be organised.

He said that the Kingdom's agreement, signed with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), would be implemented and the IPA, in cooperation with the Civil Service Commission, would try to maximise its benefit from the agreement and available funds to carry out the training courses in the Kingdom.

ACC begins talks on policy coordination

BAGHDAD (AP) — Senior officials from Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen began talks Saturday on coordinating their countries' foreign policies.

Helmi Nammer, secretary-general of the Arab Cooperation Council, said the officials will discuss foreign policy issues ahead of the meeting of heads of government set for Tuesday.

Issues that will top the agenda are regional developments including the situation in Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq peace, Nammer said.

The diplomats will lay down recommendations for their foreign ministers to endorse

before proposing them to the meeting of the heads of government.

The ACC was formed in February last year and its leaders said it has no political ambitions beyond seeking to unify the four countries' standpoints on various issues.

Nammer said the government leaders will review the work of several committees and that accords have been drafted on how to achieve economic integration between the four countries.

The Egyptian economies professor said the group is still moving carefully on integration and needs more time and

effort to achieve it.

"We are still in the first stage of laying the foundations for such an integration and we don't find reasons to rush," Nammer said.

The heads of government will review 12 accords prepared by experts of the four countries on cooperation and integration in transport, scientific fields, oil and health care.

The four countries agreed to draft several pacts in economic and labour fields during their last summit meeting in San'a, North Yemen in September.

But the ministers of trade and economics failed to agree last month on an agreement

that would have laid the groundwork for the four countries to abolish customs duties.

Instead, they agreed to give their partners limited preferential treatment in imports of certain goods.

Arab diplomats said Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen will express support for President Saddam Hussein's latest peace move aimed at breaking the deadlock in the peace talks with Iran.

Egypt, a staunch supporter of Iraq during the war, has restored its diplomatic ties with Syria which supported Iran. Iraq has not commented on the Egyptian move.

Romania elections

(Continued from page 1)

front then abolished the death penalty and said members of the security forces convicted by military tribunals would be sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

"Death to the Securitate" and "Death for death" the crowd chanted, referring to the estimated 10,000 who died in the clashes between security forces and the army during the revolution.

In the western Transylvanian town of Timisoara, where protests in mid-December sparked the uprising, young protesters also gathered outside local NSF headquarters Friday to protest at the credentials of some front members.

Local NSF leader Lorin Fortuna resigned just before the demonstration and the army commander agreed to run the area until new elections were held for the front committee within a week, the official Rompres news

agency reported.

A leading Bucharest newspaper, Romania Libera, called Saturday for the sacking of Vice-President Dumitru Mazilu for his past associations with Ceausescu.

The dictator fired Mazilu as ambassador to the United Nations early last year after preventing him from presenting a human rights report critical of Romania to the world body.

But the newspaper questioned his credentials as an anti-Ceausescu dissident, saying he had been a colonel in the hated secret police. It also accused him of making a personal bid for power by whipping up demonstrators with anti-Communist chants at the Friday protest outside NSF headquarters.

Another leading front member and dissident who has also come under public criticism, Silviu Brucan, wrote in the newspaper Adevarul Saturday that Romania needed democracy to enter the technological era.

Modrow

(Continued from page 1)

Hilsberg agreed the new opposition groups and parties displayed "a certain inexperience" but this was not the same as incompetence.

"In any case we couldn't do a worse job than the Communists," he said to loud applause from the 400 delegates at an East Berlin congress hall.

The SPD would not form a coalition with the Communists after free elections May 6, he added.

The SPD has 32,000 members and is one of the opposition groups participating in weekly talks with the government parties.

Others, including the Centrist Democratic Awakening Party, have also called for an election alliance of all opposition forces but some conservative groups

Azeris seize buildings

(Continued from page 1)

Moscow's control, then returned to Azerbaijan under supervision of a parliamentary commission.

Armenians began protesting again, and Azerbaijan renewed a rail blockade of Armenia last week in a campaign to retain control of the enclave. Fuel and food are running dangerously low in Armenia, which receives most of its supplies through Azerbaijan.

"The people are furious because the central authorities are not paying adequate attention to events," said Eduard Shakh-Nazaryan, an editor at the state-run Armenpress agency.

"This will lead to unpredictable consequences if it continues," he said in a telephone interview from Yerevan. "I mean, military conflict between us if they continue like this."

TASS reported Friday that an Interior Ministry officer on assignment to help maintain order in the region, was shot to death apparently by an Azerbaijani policeman in the Azerbaijani-populated village of Akhul, TASS gave no other details.

The Azeri Popular Front began moving into public buildings in Lenkoran Thursday. The following day Izvestia newspaper reported that the city's radio station had been taken over and a "provisional defence committee" was keeping law and order.

The latest upheavals in Azerbaijan, which started a week ago when nationalists began tearing

down sections of the border fence with Iran, pose an additional problem for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

While the independence movement in the Caucasus is far less advanced than in the Baltic region, a strong nationalist tide in the south has frequently been marked by violence and Moscow has appeared incapable of maintaining order.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday his country would welcome Soviet Muslims who wish to visit Iran, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Velayati arrived in Tabriz, capital of Iran's east Azerbaijan province, to finalise details to facilitate travel for the Soviet Muslims.

The province borders Soviet Azerbaijan, once part of Iran. Shiite Muslims in the Soviet region have been waging a protest campaign for two weeks, demanding close links with their ethnic co-religionists in northwest Iran amid the wave of reform that has been sweeping Eastern Europe.

The report did not say when the first batch of Soviet visitors was expected in Iran. But Tehran Radio, also monitored in Nicosia, said that Velayati's trip was undertaken "in light of recent developments in Soviet Azerbaijan, and following protests by Muslims there demanding easier travel between the two neighbouring countries."

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

* An exhibition entitled "They chose 30 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* A lecture by Professor Nabil Khayry on "The Nabatean civilisation and the 1981 Petra excavations" at the British Council — 6:00 p.m.

FILM

* A Soviet film entitled "Paratroopers" at the Soviet Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.

Next Thursday and every Thursday read

The Star

Jordan's political, economic & cultural weekly newsmagazine
P O Box 9313, Amman, Jordan. Tel: 648298

Tibet looks to the sun for energy

By Li Hui

Energy-starved Tibet is turning to its richest potential power source — the sun. With little oil or coal, but with as much sunshine as Saudi Arabia or the Sahara, this region on the roof of the world is looking to the sun to solve its problems.

With an average altitude of over 4,000 metres above sea level, Tibet gets between 2,500 and 3,400 hours of sunshine per year. And Lhasa, the regional capital, is called "Solar City" as it gets an incredible 3,000 hours of annual sunshine. The region's annual radiation averages 170 kcal per square centimetre, rising to 185.9 kcal for Lhasa itself.

Tibet has considerable hydroelectric potential, but construction of generating plants is expensive, and seasonal variations affect output. There is less water in winter. And the few existing power plants can hardly supply electricity to herders' homes scattered in the vast pastoral areas. So the development of a more feasible alternative such as solar energy is urgent.

"Only in the last 30 years has it become possible to harness solar energy scientifically," said Chen Zhengrong, director of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute. But Tibetans, he said, had been using solar energy since ancient times, albeit in simple ways, and based on the experi-

ence of generations. The famous Sunlight Hall, bod-som of the 14th Dalai Lama, was built 300 years ago in the Potola Palace. Large windows face south to let in more sunlight. The window sills are only 40 centimetres above the ground. There are no eaves, so as to let in as much sunlight as possible. As a result, more than half of the hall is warmed by the sun in winter.

Ordinary people, unable to afford that level of luxury, simply painted their window-frames black to absorb more heat from the sun. This practice is still popular in Tibet.

Scientific use of solar energy began from necessity. Because of the low temperature on the plateau, it was impossible to grow such vegetables as eggplant and tomato. People in Tibet relied on dried vegetables from China's other regions. In 1956, an all-glass greenhouse of 100 square metres was built along the Qinghai-Tibet highway to provide a road maintenance crew with fresh vegetables. The experiment proved successful and for the first time Tibetans tasted the fruits of scientific research into solar energy.

Greenhouses became popular in the 1970s for their economic benefits. Statistics show that the cost of building one can be recovered in two years with an annual output of 225 tons of vegetables per hectare. By the end of 1980, 200,000 square

metres of greenhouse had been built in Tibet.

Such successes encouraged people to study wider applications for solar energy. Research groups were organised, and soon the first solar bathroom was built in Lhasa. Consisting simply of a brocade tube, a steel plate and two gasoline barrels, this solar water heating system made it possible for city dwellers to have a relaxing bath after the day's work. Hitherto the only bathing facility for most Tibetans are the rivers, which defy access in most time of the year since the water is icy cold.

Further research was halted when the Cultural Revolution began in 1966. But Tibetans remembered what had been achieved. So when the world energy crisis occurred in the early 1970s and intensified Tibet's need for energy, solar research was quickly revived. A number of solar devices were made, including solar boilers, solar cooking stoves and solar PV cells.

The solar boiler first benefitted Tibet's urban residents. In winter when electricity becomes extremely scarce in the major cities, local residents were reluctant to use their limited supply of gasoline to boil drinking water. The problem was easily solved by the solar boiler which can boil 10 pounds of water in 40 minutes.

The solar cooking stove has come into its own in pastoral and agricultural areas. In Tibet's

western ARI Prefecture, herdsmen had used yak and sheep manure as fuel to cook. Farmers, however, had to buy manure from the herdsmen or chop down ever scarcer trees that had taken 200 to 300 years to grow.

"The cooking stove makes our life easier," said a village headman in Tuliangtong County, 25 kilometres west of Lhasa. The villagers, he said, use the stove unless it rains or becomes cloudy.

No one has so far been burnt or scalded, but burnt rice is common for the new users. People learn to adjust the focal point of the stove, where the heat is concentrated, only after they come to know the product better.

Newly designed solar cells are coming into use in herders' homes. These cells provide power for lighting, thus replacing butter which used to serve farmers as a light source. A solar cell actually stores solar energy. It has also a function in TV relay services. Most cells come from China's southern Yunnan province, as Tibet cannot yet produce them.

"We focus on the systematic study of solar energy, rather than on production," said Chen Zhengrong of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute. "We are more interested in looking for solar products that can best fit Tibet's special conditions," he explained.

The director takes as an example the windows of a solar re-

sidential building. The amount of the heat a room can absorb through the windows, he said, depends on the quality and area of the glass as well as the number of glass layers. When there is sunlight, Chen said, the larger the windows, the more heat the room gets. Whereas when there is no sunshine such large windows cool a room. "What we try to do," Chen said, "is to find out what kind of glass we will have to use."

Solar energy is also used in industry, such as in the drying of Tibet's traditional medicinal herbs and leather. The herbs used to be spread out in the open to dry and were often ruined by wind and sand. Leather was similarly affected. Nowadays herbs and leather are dried more quickly and more cleanly inside solar buildings.

Solar energy research is financed by the state and the Tibet regional government. Two new energy research groups have been sent to Tibet by the state, and other provinces have given financial support also. A 100,000 yuan (about \$27,000) fund, allocated by the regional government in 1982 and 1983, according to Tsarling Dorjee, deputy director of the regional industry and power department, was used in building greenhouses and solar bath-rooms.

With 7,300 solar cooking stoves, 15,500 square metres of solar boilers and 20,000 kilowatts of solar PV cells in use now, solar



No danger of burning the hands

energy saves about 20,000 tons of coal each year in Tibet. The 80,000 square metres of solar residential buildings account for half of China's total.

"But at first, local Tibetans, especially herdsmen and farmers, were not ready to accept the new energy appliances," Chen recalled. Some people feared that solar-boiled water might be poisonous. Others worried that some day the sun might be totally used up. But gradually people

were convinced by the efficiency of solar energy and the new products have a ready market.

Department stores in Tibet complain of a shortage of solar products. "We sold out 1,200 solar cooking stoves within a few days in May," said Wu Ming, general manager of the solar products shop. "There seem to be endless requests for the products and I hope more will come," Wu said. Help is on the way. An

\$870,000 project for China's northwestern Gansu province, funded by the United Nations, will also benefit Tibet. Holland is providing \$180,000 to assist Tibet's energy planning.

"We have a long way to go," said Chen Zhengrong. "What we have achieved is just a beginning." In the next several years, Chen said, solar energy will be used more extensively, even in street lamps and in motor vehicles — China features.

Artificial heart developers concentrate on electric versions

By A.J. Hostetter
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The air-driven artificial heart failed as a permanent device but, scientists report, work is proceeding on a new generation of plastic hearts that would let patients live independent of external machines.

Some researchers said last week that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's withdrawal of approval for the Jarvik-7 heart might hurt their work by creating doubt about the long-term feasibility of artificial hearts.

They agree that the future of artificial hearts lies in totally transplantable devices, such as battery-run devices that also could use external energy sources.

Some day, a patient's plastic heart may beat from current flowing from his car's cigarette lighter, says Dr. Donald Olsen, a University of Utah researcher developing the Utah-100 hydraulic heart.

"The air-driven heart has failed as a permanent device," said Dr. William Pierce of the Penn State Medical Centre in Hershey. Pierce implanted Penn State's first total artificial heart, a pneumatic device like the Jarvik-7, in 1985. But the risk of strokes and infection facing recipients of the air-driven heart — who remain mostly bedridden in hospitals, linked by tubes to large compressors — stopped early hopes for the device.

Recipients of an electric heart would wear a battery pack and be able to walk, exercise and even work, he said.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute is financing research at Penn State, the University of Utah, the Texas Heart Institute and the Cleveland Clinic on electric artificial hearts.

Gerson Rosenberg, a biomedical engineer who leads Penn State's electric heart development, said the school is in the third year of its 5½-year contract and is testing the device in calves. Penn State's air-driven device now is the only FDA-approved total heart.

Rosenberg predicted the FDA will consider a totally implantable, electric heart by the late 1990s.

Pierce and Rosenberg said they doubt the decision to pull the Jarvik heart from the market-place will hinder research because the FDA's comments focused on Synchro Inc. of Temple, Arizona, which was producing the heart as the Synchro-7. "It's regrettable that the Synchro company didn't improve that device," Rosenberg said. "You shouldn't judge all artificial hearts by the Jarvik. There was an awful lot learned."

The Jarvik had been criticised because recipients often experienced blood clots and strokes. Some researchers claimed the problems arose because of design problems in the sacs that pump the blood; other criticism centered on the tube running to the air compressor.

The Penn State total heart has been approved only for temporary use. Other companies pro-

duce assist devices, which aid the heart's function.

At the University of Utah, where the Jarvik-7 was developed, researchers have moved on to study a new generation of heart replacement devices — known as the Utah-100, primarily for temporary use — as a bridge to human heart transplants.

Olsen said two models of the Utah-100 are being used in animal experiments. One is air-driven, requiring external heart drive boxes; the other, a hydraulically driven version, is fully contained within the recipient's chest.

The hydraulic model has generated the most enthusiasm and enjoys a five-year, \$5.6-million National Institute of Health grant. Olsen said the NIH has set a goal of having a totally implantable artificial heart by 1995.

The Utah-100 is elliptically shaped and smaller than the Synchro-7. Its design includes an internal battery and a system of electrical induction coils located under and above the skin of the chest.

The coil on the outside could be connected to a variety of power sources, including a battery pack, a transformer tapping into residential power, and possibly a device allowing the patient to draw power from a car battery, perhaps through a cigarette lighter.

The Jarvik heart first was implanted into 61-year-old dentist Barney Clark on Dec. 2, 1982, by William DeVries at the University of Utah. Clark lived for 112 days on the Jarvik-7, and died after suffering a seizure, pneumonia and kidney failure.

The secret life of Saeed

The secret life of Saeed
By Emile Habiby
Readers International

HISTORY, WROTE MARX, in an oft-quoted phrase, first enters on the stage as tragedy, and subsequently appears as farce. Condemned to repetition, so the argument goes, history's stories lose their initial edge so that one can only engage and finally master their brutal meaning by laughing at how little humans seem to learn — or want to learn — about the past's mistakes and the impulse to repeat them.

But Israel's systematic oppression of the Palestinian people, including 40-plus years of illegal land seizures and forced emigrations, systematic beatings and planned murders, apparently defies Marx's prescription and its assumption of normalcy. "We have nothing to laugh about," proclaims a generation of Palestinian resistance literature, "and there is nothing farcical about how our successive generations continue to suffer the fate of their ancestors."

True though this may be, Emile Habiby implies in his brilliant novel *The Secret Life of Saeed*, that a literature without irony eventually rings hollow; one can only strike a heroic note or sustain a tragic mood for so long before it loses its ability to convey those very horrors it screams of so often.

Written as a farce which fully recognises how humorous the incongruities of daily life in Palestine can be, Habiby's novel is paradoxically more successful in sketching the horror of that life than the ostensibly more "tragic" poetry of Mahmoud Darwish and Ghassan Khanifani, two of the most acclaimed Palestinian writers.

Habiby's protagonist Saeed is hence not your typical resistance hero. Rather, as a Palestinian collaborator more concerned with survival than struggle, he bumbles his way from episode to episode, marked by craven cowardice and a stunning inability to accomplish the tasks outlined for him by his Israeli superiors. Certain that "the moon is closer to us now than are the fig trees of our departed village," he accepts apparent strokes of fate — watching the Israelis murder his father and deport his first and only love in the War of 1948 and, subsequently, watching them kill his wife and radical son in the ominous year preceding the Six Day War.

Neither surprised nor, consequently, particularly incapacitated by such happenings, Saeed is able to train his perceptive glance on the Israeli occupation without letting his emotions get in the way — usually. The exceptions make for a beautifully tight dialogue between Saeed's bittling cool wit — almost invariably exercised at the

expense of the Israeli state — and those poignant moments when the horror he experiences and the rage he represses overwhelm his pretense of distant invulnerability. The tension produced by this dialogue, always present beneath the surface, eventually precipitates the long delayed explosion through which Saeed — and by implication the long-quietest Palestinian people — are forced to wake from the nightmare of history within which they sleep and which "will reach them nevertheless, generation after generation," unless they confront it.

Saeed's epiphanic moment takes place in prison, where, his longtime service to the state notwithstanding, he eventually finds himself thrown for a crime he did not commit. Having been beaten brutally, he awakens to find another tortured prisoner beside him who not only bears his name but who, he discovers, is the son of his first love, long exiled in Lebanon. When the younger Saeed, assuming that his elder counterpart is in jail, like himself, for fighting the Israeli state, praises him, he restores to the older Saeed a dignity he had forgotten — literally and figuratively — a younger self — and allows him to see more clearly than ever before that the Palestinians' condition "contradicted the laws of nature and the rules of logic."

Still, old habits die hard, and while Saeed

refuses thereafter to work with the Israelis, he fails miserably in his efforts to become a hero as well. As the narrative draws toward a close one re-encounters the Saeed of the early pages — with a significant difference. For Saeed has been transformed by his experiences, and even if he will not pick up a gun, he is more than ready to rebuke the obsessive secrecy and frightened silences which had accompanied his earlier dictum to "walk on four feet... if true caution demands it."

Now, remembering his son Waleed's final scornful proclamation before he was shot, he throws that caution to the winds, deciding that "just once, I want to be careless about what I say." The result is Habiby's text, as Saeed looks back and recounts his experiences through a series of letters. If, as one of Saeed's friends argues, "many adopt literature because they lack power for anything more," Habiby makes sure that his audience nevertheless appreciates the courage in resistance literature's quiet desperation. For while words alone cannot deliver a better future, they are integral in providing inspiration for the fighters who can. Habiby's novel is so stunning because its author understands this, and is secure enough to accept the limited albeit important role he has to play in the Palestinian struggle.

By Mike Fischer

Scientists concerned about frogs, toads dying around world

By Irwin Arieff
Reader

WASHINGTON — Toads and frogs are dropping like flies.

Zoologists say that a mysterious, precipitous decline in the amphibian population in some parts of the world raises troubling question about the future of humans and the environment.

"What we've got here is a global early warning system and that system is the frog," says zoologist Michael Tyler of Australia's University of Adelaide. To date, the evidence of a huge decline in the world's amphibian population is largely anecdotal, but zoologists say it should not be ignored.

"Amphibians have a perpetually moist skin, and they live both on land and in water, so they are constantly sampling their environment in ways that we don't," says David Wake, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

"They are going to sense things before we do, and if they're going to go, there's a message there for us," says Wake, former president of the American Society of Naturalists.

If, after further study, it is determined that the threat to amphibians is only a local problem, or part of some natural cycle, then there is nothing to worry about, says Wake.

However, if instead it is determined that the problem is world-

wide, then something must be done, he said.

"Without question something is going on in some places. What we don't know is if it's general. If it is a global phenomenon, this really is an important discovery," he said.

At Wake's suggestion, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in Washington has decided to sponsor a conference on the phenomenon next month in Irvine, California.

The goal of the meeting, which is to be chaired by Wake, is to determine if there is a problem and, if so, what to do about it, said National Academy staff member Donna Gepard.

A decade ago, when he walked through the meadows of the high

Sierras — a craggy mountain range that runs along the California-Nevada border — "It used to be frog heaven," Wake recalled in a telephone interview. "They would step on them, and they would step on them."

"Now they are almost absent from the area," he said. He found a similar decline in salamanders and toad populations on a recent visit to Costa Rica's Monte Verde rain forest, raising suspicions that the problem was widespread.

It was then that he started a "frog log" in his computer.

When his concerns began to circulate in Zoological circles, phone calls and letters started pouring in. Areas so far reporting dwind-

ling or disappearing amphibian populations include Denmark, Hungary, southern Ontario in Canada as well as southern California and Australia, Wake said.

Along Australia's east coast alone about 20 different amphibian species have been affected "and some have disappeared entirely," Tyler said in a telephone interview.

In Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea "a large number of species have either disappeared totally or have disappeared from a large part of their range," Tyler added.

While other amphibian habitats such as central Panama, Sarawak, northern Borneo, and the U.S. Yellowstone National Park in northwest Wyoming report no

apparent changes, even zoologists from these regions are unanimous in their support for a worldwide conference on the topic, Wake said.

Zoologists say there is no ready explanation for the apparent high mortality among amphibians. They speculate the causes could include pesticide residues, acid rain, a gradual disappearance of the ponds amphibians require to breed, and growing salinity in wetlands.

Other possible explanations include the contamination of wetlands with heavy metal toxins, higher doses of ultraviolet radiation from the sun (caused by a thinning of the atmospheric ozone layer), and even a lethal frog virus.

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Jordan Times'
JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Rafsanjani defends use of foreign credits to rebuild Iran economy

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani Friday defended his government's plan to seek \$20 billion in foreign investment and insisted this would not drag Iran into "dependence," Tehran radio reported.

The government's five-year plan to rebuild the country's war-battered economy was approved last week after months of debate. The controversy focused on Rafsanjani's ambitious plans to normalise ties with the West in order to attract foreign investment.

Radical leaders, who dominate the 270-member parliament and oppose any foreign investment, argue this will lead Iran into an endless cycle of debt.

They gave the plan the green light after a stern warning Monday by the country's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to stop frustrating Rafsanjani's efforts to resuscitate the economy.

Rafsanjani, in his Friday sermon in Tehran, rejected any no-

tion that the kind of foreign investment he was seeking would lead Iran into "dependence" on the outside world.

Speaking on the radio, monitored in Nicosia, he argued "this is not dependence. Dependence is created when gas, which is one of our resources, and we can use it to produce hundreds of products, burns on land and sea, and we do not have the means to harness it now or in the next 20 years."

Iran has signed a number of oil and gas-related agreements, primarily with the Soviet Union, which is helping in gas exploration under the Iranian side of the Caspian Sea bed. But these projects are being financed by huge exports of natural gas which will be piped to the Soviet Union starting in March.

Rafsanjani denied that the \$20 billion his government is seeking to rebuild oil-related industries battered in the Gulf war, and to construct a number of dams, amounted to a loan.

He said any foreign investment in Iran would be repaid from profits after the projects reached production stage. The eight-year war with Iraq, which halted in August 1988, tapped an annual \$10 billion of the country's resources. Many of Iran's industries are outdated or have fallen into disrepair.

Rafsanjani acknowledged that in his five-year plan "expenditure is based on earnings, but we have some needs in the petrochemical industry and to build some dams, for which we don't have enough foreign exchange."

Spending in the five-year plan is projected at \$350 billion, of which \$112 billion reportedly will be in foreign exchange.

He said that the plan envisaged an annual overall economic growth rate of eight per cent.

"At this rate, over the five-year

period we will have achieved considerable growth," Rafsanjani said.

He said that according to projections "agriculture will grow at 6.1 per cent, oil at 8.7 per cent, industry at 14.5 per cent, services at 6.7 per cent, mines at 19.5 per cent, utilities at 9.1 per cent and construction at 14.5 per cent."

Rafsanjani's projected growth rates, although ambitious, will be needed after years in which Iran saw a negative annual rate of growth of minus 2.7 per cent which has been dragging down the country's economy since the 1979 revolution that deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and installed an Islamic government.

The five-year plan was drawn up by the previous government and announced in March. But after his election in July, Rafsanjani announced major changes, adding another \$16 billion in spending.

The plan aims to triple non-oil exports in 1990-95 from \$3 billion a year to \$9 billion. At present



Hashemi Rafsanjani

Iran relies on oil and gas exports for 95 per cent of its foreign exchange.

Rafsanjani has said about \$50 billion are locked up in unfinished projects in Iran, and that many bottlenecks and shortages could be relieved if the projects were completed.

One of the major tasks of the five-year plan is to tackle inflation, officially pegged at 28 per cent but estimated to be much higher.

Rafsanjani says he aims to do this by importing more goods to relieve shortages and by boosting industrial output.

E. Germany lifts ban on foreign investment

EAST BERLIN (R)—East Germany opened the floodgates to Western capital Friday by lifting a ban on foreign investment and saying it might allow some outside firms to hold majority stakes in joint venture companies.

Parliament voted overwhelmingly to change the country's rigid constitution to allow foreign participation in East German businesses of all sizes — from huge state combines to tiny private firms.

Economics Minister Christa Luft told parliament the government would issue a decree regulating joint ventures in two weeks, a temporary measure pending full legislation later in 1990 after free elections.

Earlier Finance Minister Uta Nickel said the government would consider exceptions to its planned 49 per cent ceiling on foreign shareholdings which has been criticised in West Germany as not going far enough to attract outside investment.

Luft said on West German television exceptions were likely to include small and medium-sized firms.

So far East Germany has said its new regulations would restrict foreign participation in joint ven-

tures to 49 per cent to protect East German industry from a sell-out.

East Germany has communism's strongest economy but is keen to attract foreign capital to bolster industries willing because of outmoded factories and a dramatic westward exodus of disillusioned citizens.

Nickel told reporters after meeting West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel: "We will formulate basic rules. It must also be decided for which individual firms we will consider different regulations."

Waigel said West German firms were clamouring to invest in East Germany but would not be satisfied with a 49 per cent limit.

"All forms of participation are problematic," Waigel said. "But 49 per cent participation will definitely not be enough to maintain the atmosphere that prevails in the markets at the moment and to allow capital to flow in the right direction."

Western economic experts said other reforming East European countries had also initially tried to keep majority stakes in joint ventures but had abandoned this rather than frighten away West-

ern investors.

"Our impression has been for some time that if a joint venture is of particular interest, then the 49 per cent rule will be relaxed," said one Western diplomat.

"The word in West Germany is — don't wait for the law to be passed, get into the market now," he added.

The diplomat said West German carmaker Volkswagen A.G. already had a 50-50 deal with East Germany's IFA automobile concern and that other companies were looking to match this or do better.

The constitutional change adds a section which provides for the setting up of joint ventures with state combines, factories, institutes, cooperatives and small private firms.

Parliament agreed to leave out a clause in the amendment referring to the dominance of state ownership.

"By striking out this phrase we are building a legal umbrella allowing for the possible development of different kinds of business," Luft said.

"The notion of the dominance of the state will not change and is guaranteed elsewhere in the constitution," he noted.

Another change in the constitution ensures East German workers have a say in the way joint ventures are run.

East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow also attended the finance ministers' meeting, squeezed into a break in East Germany's parliament session, but did not brief reporters.

Suheimat reveals budget for Greater Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Greater Amman Municipality's current 1990 fiscal budget amounts to JD 40,112,240 which includes JD 36,921,560 for expected revenues leaving a JD 3,190,680 deficit.

The figures were announced last week by Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat who said that the municipality would resort to an improvement in methods to collect dues and reduce and rationalise expenditure in a bid to reduce the margin of the deficit.

At present, the municipal council is introducing measures to deal with a tax on real estate, specially buildings, and a draft law has been referred to the government for further study.

Suheimat noted. In a bid to reduce the deficit, the council has decided to cancel earlier decisions to appropriate a number of lands and real estates, the mayor added.

"Indeed the council is now involved in a study on all earlier decisions on land appropriation and also on better and more profitable means of investments to ensure revenues for the municipality," Suheimat noted.

The mayor announced that the decision has now been taken for the purchase of 20 garbage processing trucks at the total cost of JD 1,381,856 to help to promote the cleanliness campaigns in and around Amman.

Official stresses Jordan's international trade accords

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's economic and trade agreements with Arab and foreign nations have contributed to a rise in national exports and an increase in providing Arab countries with skilled workers participating in their national development endeavours, according to Assem Hindawi, director of economic development department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

"Thanks to these agreements, Jordan has been able to increase the volume of its national exports of agricultural and industrial products mainly to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria," Hindawi said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Jordan, he said, has accords with Egypt, Iraq, North and South Yemen, Syria, Lebanon,

Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Djibouti which all employ Jordanian workers in industry, health, education, construction and other fields.

He said that the Kingdom has other agreements with another 27 foreign nations in the five continents which help the country export its national products.

"Jordan and these nations have formed special committees to follow up the implementation of agreements," Hindawi added.

He said that the Kingdom is closely cooperating with a number of pan-Arab and Arab League organisations and numerous world organisations to promote its national development and benefit from international expertise in various domains.

These organisations include among others: The European Community, the Group of 77, the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Council of Arab Economic Unity, the Arab Common Market and the United Nations' Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Jan. 6, '90 and ending Wednesday Jan. 10, '90. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	17547	56553	2,700	3,310	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	155636	273857	1,520	1,810	1,000
Housing Bank	630	1365	2,060	2,100	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	3200	9960	3,100	3,350	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	500	13875	27,000	27,750	5,000
Bank of Jordan	4945	75842	14,200	15,250	5,000
Arab Bank	12690	2963282	225,000	228,000	10,000
Jordan National Bank	28524	74723	2,560	2,670	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	2230	7608	3,500	3,450	1,000
National Financial Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	204179	441638	2,030	2,140	1,000
National Finance Corporation (Jordan)	14160	36139	2,550	2,560	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	661	606	1,000	0,980	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	51750	105371	1,950	2,110	1,000
Jordan Insurance	13600	33718	2,500	2,520	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelpia Insurance	700	1110	1,530	1,600	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	100	173	1,730	1,730	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Abitya Insurance	300	510	1,710	1,700	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Eagle Insurance	133325	198768	1,350	1,560	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	250	460	1,750	1,840	1,000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,800
Danco for Housing and Investment	9909	10284	1,060	1,010	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	504433	457002	0,910	0,900	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	324715	186672	0,610	0,550	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	—	—	—	—	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeeroo	60400	27268	0,960	0,950	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	14998	22211	1,480	1,470	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	77250	121986	1,620	1,560	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	12900	8424	0,660	0,620	1,000
Gargan Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	36450	96852	2,650	2,680	1,000
Jordan Press Kodak	17100	66900	4,050	4,000	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	2000	4100	2,000	2,050	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Dairy	115501	234108	2,020	1,950	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	7447	39080	5,250	5,130	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	185799	558963	2,950	3,020	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	13388	61585	4,600	4,600	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	25418	68488	2,800	2,690	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	2200	16471	6,090	7,500	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	325700	514246	1,860	1,820	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	3000	10500	3,600	3,450	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	62278	179520	2,860	2,860	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Textiles	6679	22018	3,300	3,300	1,000
Chemical Industries	11150	39032	3,640	3,450	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	148296	290423	1,970	1,900	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	13294	56777	4,150	4,300	1,000
National Steel Industries	1500	4319	2,930	2,860	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	17900	95499	5,550	5,550	1,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	1331	10915	8,240	8,200	1,000
National Lime & Brick	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	17900	10579	0,690	0,570	1,000
Arab Investment and International Trade	73450	622930	0,830	0,870	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	1700	6284	3,700	3,670	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	11270	9843	0,790	0,900	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	5000	17349	3,520	3,590	1,000
Jordan Industrial for Plastic Bags	350	961	2,560	2,820	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboards	2964	24365	7,940	8,450	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	51673	171434	3,520	3,560	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	11450	18729	1,700	1,550	1,000
Jordan Tanning	1668	3920	2,350	2,350	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	106500	268421	2,510	2,540	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	104550	512868	5,680	4,500	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	90250	262750	2,940	2,910	1,000
Jordan Sphero Chemicals	72850	21122	2,880	2,880	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	903859	1157805	1,210	1,200	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	430470	711643	1,570	1,660	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	165563	120180	0,750	0,730	1,000
National Quarry	21378	22221	0,900	1,010	1,000
Grand total	5,392,067	11,661,899			

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Yemens to merge airlines

SANAA (R) — North and South Yemen, pursuing unification moves, plan to merge their airlines to form a combined fleet of 12 planes, a North Yemeni newspaper said Friday. The weekly 26 September said Sanaa and Aden will soon start "taking the necessary steps for the merger of Yemen Airways of the north with Yamda, the South Yemeni airline." Yemen Airways has seven planes. Its average annual gross profit is around 40 million riyals (\$4 million). Since 1978 it has been a joint-stock company with Saudi Arabia holding 49 per cent of the shares.

Japan buys more oil from M.E.

TOKYO (R) — The Middle East accounted for 76.3 per cent of Japan's crude oil imports in November, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) reported. Japan's overall crude imports in November reached up to 3.93 million barrels per day (b/d) from 3.74 million b/d in October, and were up sharply from 3.42 million b/d a year earlier, the ministry said. The year-on-year rise stemmed from brisk refined products demand and rising imports for processing deals, MITI said. OPEC crude imports accounted for 81.4 per cent of the total, compared with 75.4 per cent in October. November crude imports from the Middle East rose to 3.00 million b/d from 2.74 million b/d in October, accounting for 76.3 per cent of the total, compared with 73.3 per cent in October, the MITI figures show.

Swissair, Singapore Airlines announce close cooperation

ZURICH (J.T.) — Swissair and Singapore Airlines are to embark on close and extensive cooperation in a number of fields. With common partner Delta Air Lines of the USA, the accord provides the third link in a quality alliance that now extends all around the globe. The Swissair-Singapore Airlines cooperation calls for coordination of schedules between Switzerland and Singapore and neighbouring regions beyond. Close cooperation is also planned in the marketing field, particularly in the service operations conducted by the two carriers. Joint use of facilities is a further aim. Swissair serves 110 destinations in 68 countries. Singapore Airlines' route network extends to 57 points in 37 countries. Swissair operates a fleet of 53 aircraft; Singapore has 39, most of them widebodies. Swissair carried a total of 8.1 million passengers and 267,000 tonnes of cargo in 1988; by comparison, in the 1988/89 financial year, Singapore Airlines transported 6.2 million passengers and 240,000 tonnes of cargo.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

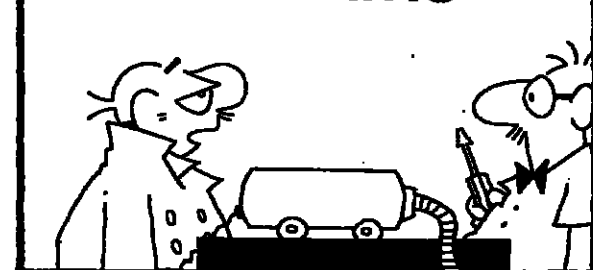
Saturday, January 13, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	113.1	114.2
U.S. dollar	650.0	656.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	445.8	450.3
Swiss franc	1078.9	1089.7	Dutch guilder	341.6	345.0
Deutsche mark	385.3	389.4	Swedish crown	106.1	107.2
Swiss franc	434.1	438.4	Italian lira (for 100)	51.7	52.2
			Belgian franc (for 10)	164.8	166.6

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

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REPAIRS



"I tried to vacuum the snow off my sidewalk."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Amokl and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Liverpool draws, surrenders two-point lead

LONDON (R) — Liverpool had their lead at the top of the English first division threatened as goal difference on Saturday as strugglers Luton held them to a 2-2 draw at Anfield after threatening one of the upsets of the season.

Two goals within two minutes from Kingley Black and Dabala, but Kurt Nogan put Luton 2-1 up and just 16 minutes away from their first ever win at Liverpool and their first away triumph for over a year.

But Scottish international Steve Nicol equalised in the 76th minute to deny Luton's new manager Jim Ryan a remarkable result in his first match in charge.

Aston Villa moved level on 43 points with Liverpool following a 2-0 win at bottom club Charlton — their 12th victory in 15 league games. Villa also have a game in hand over the leaders.

But Arsenal and Southampton, third and fourth respectively, lost

ground. Arsenal crashed 1-0 at London neighbours Wimbledon in a draw contest in which defender Nigel Winterburn was carried off on a stretcher late in the second half.

Newcomer Michael Bennett scored the goal minutes from time to leave the champions four points behind the leading pair.

Southampton, held to a 2-2 draw at home by improving Everton, remain eight points adrift of the leaders.

Veteran defender Russell Osman scored twice as Southampton's first against Everton continued — they have not beaten the Liverpool side in 12 meetings over the last six years.

Unchanged for the sixth successive match and beaten only once in their last 10 outings, Southampton were expected to prove too sharp for their mid-table visitors.

They had scored more goals in

their last three games but Everton had in their previous 13 and when Osman opened the scoring with a left foot drive in the 14th minute the match looked set to go to form.

But former Manchester United midfielder Norman Whiteside struck a minute either side of half-time to put the visitors ahead and Osman was left to earn a point for his side with his second goal 16 minutes from time.

When England winger John Barnes shot Liverpool ahead against Luton after 32 minutes,

Ryan's pre-match promise that his side would not be overawed at Anfield and would entertain began to look a little empty.

Bit Luton's defence, which had conceded 30 goals in their previous 12 games, worked hard throughout to contain Barnes and Black's 72nd minute equaliser clearly boosted his team mates.

Nogan's shock goal two minutes later put Luton in sight of their first win since November. But Nicol replied with his fifth of the season to stretch his side's unbeaten run to 10 games.

U.A.E. sacks Brazilian coach, hires Pole

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Mario Zagalo, the Brazilian coach who steered the United Arab Emirates' soccer squad to their first World Cup finals, was abruptly sacked by the Gulf state's football association Saturday, officials reported.

Zagalo, 53, who recently returned from a Christmas vacation in Brazil, was officially informed of the decision at a meeting with the association.

Zagalo, whose two-year contract was scheduled to expire in June, will be replaced by Bernard Blaut, Poland's former

assistant national coach who currently is head coach with the Sharjah club in the UAE first division.

"This is a surprise to me. Naturally I'm upset about it," Zagalo told the Associated Press after the meeting.

"I was officially informed of this sudden decision this morning at a meeting with the football association, although I'd read about it in today's papers. It was a shock," he said.

Zagalo was hailed as a hero in

the Emirates only a few months ago after the national team, under his tutelage, won through to the World Cup finals in Italy to be held this summer.

The United Arab Emirates Football Association, or UAEFA, was expected to formally announce Zagalo's sacking later Saturday, said association sources, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The reason for Zagalo's dismissal was not immediately known. But former U.A.E. captain Ahmed Eissa, now a leading sports official, told the AP: "The association has decided that it is in the best interests of the game and I'm sure that it would not affect the morale of the players."

Association sources noted that UAEFA was not happy with Zagalo taking a vacation in December while the national team was being groomed for the Gulf Cup in Kuwait next month and the World Cup finals.

There were also unconfirmed reports that Zagalo was unhappy with payments received after guiding the national team to second place in the Asian group final qualifying stage in Singapore, clinching its place in the World Cup finals.

The U.A.E. is grouped with West Germany, Yugoslavia and Colombia in Group D in the finals that start in June.

The news media in Dubai, the bustling port city where Zagalo lives, had speculated about his dismissal earlier in the day.

Blaut told reporters Friday night, when speculation that Zagalo was on the way out began, that he had not been officially informed of any decision.

Zagalo declined to give details of his meeting with UAEFA. But he said he will leave in about two weeks after settling matters related to his contract and clearing up his personal affairs.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 1990

By Thomas S. Person, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening to state your ideas and points of view to others and especially those for whom you can make headway and progress.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Take your family to interesting outside places of recreation. You can happily be engaged with attachment in joint projects.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Take some thoughtful presents now to members of your family. Several persons you both like will entertain you and your loved one.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You can learn a great deal by inviting intelligent persons into your home. Get your surroundings more as your attachment would like them to be.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Join to see relatives and friends, as this will be productive of beneficial results. Being too direct with your attachment could cause problems.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A good day to go Dutch treat with as many friends as possible. You want to get away for a change from your home, so do so now.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You can now get the desired help you've been striving for from your family. Carry through with an initiated hobby at your residence.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't let an overly anxious

family member get you upset over a money matter. You can now enjoy those long anticipated pleasures with loved one.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Plans that have been postponed at your residence can now be put in effect. Do a favour for those who have entertained you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Accept invitations now extended to you by influential person. A new approach at a long time business matter is necessary.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Being too frank could alienate one who is a good and loyal friend. You can get into trouble by remaining away from home too much.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't get upset because that business matter is not resolved. Keep up your social life today and reap the benefits.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Long time friends are now your best social companions. Much conversation and planning now between associates and family produce fine results.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will want to cooperate with others and be helpful to them. They will have a special ability for neat touch and fine finish that will open up unusual job opportunities and vocational possibilities that will earn them a high salary. They will be very selective in picking a mate.

League fines Maradona

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona was fined 10 million lire (\$7,700) by the disciplinary commission of the Italian league for alleging that World Cup draws had been fixed.

The soccer tribunal, which made public Maradona's punishment Friday night, stressed that the Latin American player had "ridiculed" World Cup organizers by claiming that pairings of the six groups had been decided prior to the official draw in Rome last Dec. 9.

Maradona, the captain of major league Napoli and of the Argentine national team, did not immediately comment on the decision of the Italian commission, which has landed a total of 50

million lire (\$38,500) in fines on the talkative Latin American star so far this season.

However, club sources indicated that Napoli was glad that the tribunal, which judged Maradona because he plays with an Italian team, did not resort to the most severe punishment — the player's disqualification for one or more games from the Italian championship.

The International Soccer Federation (FIFA), which had originally threatened to ban Maradona from this year's World Cup following his allegations, recently said it did not plan to take any disciplinary action against the Argentine forward.

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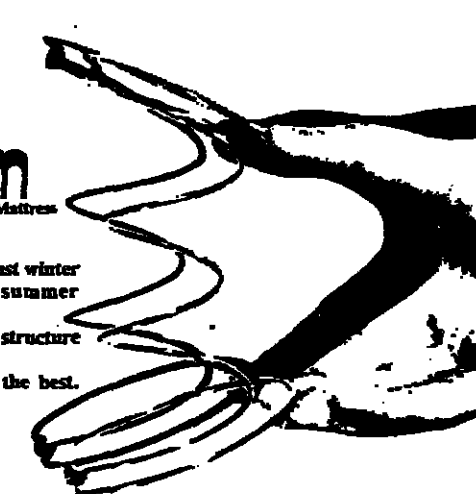
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GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR GHAMDI & TARIK HIRSH
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WATCH YOUR STEP!

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q J 7
♥ 6 3
♦ A Q J 10 7 6
♣ 5 3

WEST
♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ Q 10 5
♦ 4 2
♣ 9 7 6 2

EAST
♠ K J 10 4
♥ J 9 8 4
♦ K 5 3
♣ Q J 10

SOUTH
♠ A 5 2
♥ A K 7 3
♦ 9 8
♣ A K 5 4

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠

There is a diamond that strikes

most bridge players as regular inter-

vals. It is an affliction of flying

fingers. Instead of thinking about a

play, reflex takes over and a card

flies the table in no time flat. This

malady is usually followed by a se-

vere case of contrition.

Although North-South were us-

ing a 16-16 point no trump range,

South led the hand to be sacre-

d as its count because of the

plethora of aces and kings, so he opened one club and then jumped to two no trump. North did not think the hand would stretch to slam, and settled for the no-trump game. Little did he realize even that might be too high!

Declarer covered West's lead of the nine of spades with the jack, and East started a fine defense by with-

holding the king. After crossing to the king of clubs, declarer ran the ace of diamonds. East continued the good work by holding up the king of diamonds. When declarer repeated the flower, East was and

reverted to a club. Declarer found he had no way to reach all those good diamonds in dummy, and ended up down two tricks.

The contract was lost by hasty play to the first trick. Observe the difference if declarer simply plays low from dummy and wins in hand with the ace. Now, holding up the king of diamonds won't help. De-

clarer can force an entry to dummy by leading to the table's queen-jack of spades. As a result, the defenders collect only one spade and one diamond, and declarer rumps home with two overtricks. Making the right play at trick one swings four tricks!

THE Daily Crossword by Sidney L. Robbins

ACROSS

1. Tell a drink
5. Atoof
9. Headstrong
13. Decorate
16. Rouse a love
18. Ma Kart
17. Musical gp.
19. Young horse
20. Malice like
21. Nonsense
22. Times of note
23. Wheel for
24. Maple leaf
25. Kind of road
26. Fanned office
30. Angry look
32. Viral disease
35. Small shops
38. Farm animal
40. Literary device
41. Diminish
42. Insect
43. Wine
44. Counselor
45. NY city
46. Food fish
50. Loco
51. Rastore
52. Confidence
53. Like some ties
54. Open
55. Champagne
56. Capri a.p.
57. "You can't"
58. (Twain)
60. Andes beast
61. —do—well
62. Purses
63. "I smell"

DOWN

1. Tied
2. Fragrance
3. Fall
4. and orate
5. —Medusa—
6. Director Frank
7. Reads
8. Bussing items
9. —Medusa—
10. Get more gas
11. Phase

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Author	14. Famed	27. Pie — mode
2. Loco	15. Bayes	28. Decree
3. Rastore	16. Constructed	29. Freshly
4. Confidence	17. Handful	30. Accuse
5. Like some ties	18. Roughly	31. Swindle
6. Open	19. Artful	32. Col. club
7. Champagne	20. Decree	33. Comic Jay
8. Capri a.p.	21. Freshly	34. Consumer
9. "You can't"	22. Accuse	35. Dunderhead
10. (Twain)	23. Pie — mode	36. Cart
11. Andes beast	24. Decree	37. Power
12. —do—well	25. Freshly	38. Quick look
13. Purses	26. Accuse	39. Chicken
14. "I smell"	27. Pie — mode	40. Consumer
	28. Decree	41. Dunderhead
	29. Freshly	42. Cart
	30. Accuse	43. Power
	31. Swindle	44. Quick look
	32. Col. club	45. Chicken
	33. Comic Jay	46. Consumer
	34. Dunderhead	47. False ruby
	35. Chicken	48. Dark brown
	36. Cart	49. Diamond
	37. Power	50. Dunderhead
	38. Quick look	51. Part
	39. Chicken	52. Brother
	40. Consumer	53. Ape skin
	41. Dunderhead	54. Bombard
	42. Cart	55. Golf goal
	43. Power	56. Crazy

JORDAN AMMAN TRANSPORT AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LOAN No. 2334-JO.

The Municipality of Greater Amman (MOGA) intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above loan to lift dump trucks (hoists).

Tender documents can be available as of Monday January 15, 1990 for a non-refundable fee of JD 120.000 from:

Tenders Department
Municipality of Greater Amman
P.O. Box 132
Amman - Jordan
Tel. No. 21969 AMCITY-JO
Fax No. 9626649420

Closing date for accepting bids is Monday February 26, 1990 at 11:00 at the same address mentioned above. Bids will be opened in public one hour after the closing date.

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. TENDER NO. 5/89

Dear Sirs,

You are kindly requested to tender for the supply of 50 km PVC Insulated Cable described in the attached specifications and schedules and in accordance with the instructions to Persons Tendering and the General Conditions of the Contract.

You are required to complete and sign the attached form of Tender, fill in the schedules and forward the complete tender documents to be received by IDECO not later than 1200 hours (local time) on Monday February 12, 1990.

Tender document may be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 25.


All bids must be accompanied by a security of not less than 5 per cent of the bid price and must be delivered to the above office on Monday February 12, 1990.

Your offer should be addressed to:

Director General,
Irbid District Electricity Co.,
P.O. Box 46,
Irbid - Jordan.

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LICENCE TO KILL



Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420


* Married To The Mob * Rob Lowe... In OXFORD BLUES



Show 5 p.m. only.
Performance: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144


SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES



Performance: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571


Rock Moranis... in Honey, I Shrunk The Kids



Performance: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 674111

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Kindly apply in person to the sales dept. with a recent photo and your C.V.

Trusthouse Forte



Lithuanians protest in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, on the eve of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit.

Prosecution puts off plan to shift Noriega to new cell

MIAMI (Agencies) — Prosecutors agreed Friday during closed-door court hearing to hold off on plans to move deposed Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega from his courthouse jail cell, a U.S. police official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Noriega was not expected to be transferred "anytime in the immediate future" after his lawyers objected to the government's bid to move him.

The plan had called for Noriega to be taken almost immediately to a more secure location. Government officials, concerned his life could be threatened by Colombian cocaine smugglers who believe he may inform on them, contend the courthouse cell is not secure enough.

Noriega's lawyers have consistently said they would strongly oppose any effort to move him, claiming they want him nearby so they can help him prepare his defense against a 1988 drug indictment.

In his first public statement on the matter, U.S. District Judge William Hoever told reporters Noriega's trial could begin in as little as seven or eight months.

Noriega, once Panama's "maximum leader," has been held in a cramped underground cell called the "submarine" since his arrival in Miami last Thursday after surrendering to U.S. troops in Panama.

His capture was one of the main objectives of the U.S. invasion launched Dec. 20.

U.S. authorities may eventually renew their effort to move Noriega and reserve the right to transfer him if his security is threatened.

Noriega is awaiting trial on a 1988 indictment that charges him with shielding major Colombian cocaine traffickers, helping them ship drugs to the United States and pocketing \$4.6 million in bribes.

A U.S. television network reported Friday that Noriega may have access to millions of dollars even as awaits trial for drug offenses in the United States.

NBC news said Noriega has

access to what could be millions of dollars in an unfrozen bank account at the Deutsche Sudamerikanische bank in Hamburg, West Germany.

While it quoted bank officials as saying that the bank had no account in Noriega's name, NBC said U.S. records show the former general has a numbered account at the German bank.

NBC also said that up to \$1 million of the funds in the account could have been deposited by the U.S. military several years ago, when Noriega served as an informant for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Several banks in France and Switzerland holding as much as \$5 million for Noriega have already frozen his accounts, NBC said.

Noriega's personal fortune has been estimated at more than \$200 million, NBC said.

A top congress man said Friday that the U.S. invasion of Panama was a military success, but this was partly due to luck the United States could not depend on in any similar operation in the future.

House of Representatives Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said U.S. forces were lucky that Panamanian soldiers did not take Americans in Panama hostage and threaten to kill one an hour.

He said the U.S. invasion force was also lucky that Noriega chose not to fight.

"Noriega folded," the Wisconsin Democrat said at a press conference.

He said there was evidence that Noriega's Panama Defence Force soldiers hid out after the invasion, awaiting Noriega's orders on where and how to fight, but the orders never came.

When it became clear Noriega would issue no order to fight, Aspin said, the Panamanian soldiers "didn't take hostages. Why didn't they? That is a mystery to me."

He said some of the Panamanian soldiers had been involved in brutal tortures in the past, so he was surprised none of them had

seized Americans and threatened to kill one an hour until they got money and planes to escape from Panama.

"If you had five or six of those situations you would have had a different story here," he said.

Aspin said U.S. forces were also lucky in being able to scout Panamanian targets before the invasion because of the presence of U.S. bases under the Panama Canal treaties, and were able to fly in thousands of troops to the U.S. Howard air force base before the Christmas week invasion.

Aspin rated the U.S. invasion a first-grade military success, but said it was less successful politically. He said the swearing in of President Guillermo Endara at a U.S. base made Endara look like a U.S. puppet.

Panamanian Attorney General Olegio Cruz has brought charges against 50 members of the regime of Noriega, the independent La Prensa newspaper reported Friday.

The charges range from illicit use of government funds to involvement in cover-ups and those charged include Noriega's wife, Felicidad, who has taken refuge in the Cuban ambassador's residence, and former President Manuel Solis Palma, the newspaper said.

An aide to Cruz told Reuters Friday she did not know if charges had yet been brought against Benjamin Colomero, head of the feared civilian Dignity Battalion militias formed and armed by Noriega last year.

Colomero, 33, turned himself in to U.S. forces Wednesday and was being held at Fort Clayton with Noriega backers whose number the Red Cross has estimated at 65.

Many of the detainees are being held without formal charges, U.S. sources said, while prosecutors study each case.

U.S. sources said Friday that almost all of Noriega's top officers were either in detention or hiding in foreign embassies in Panama City.

Gorbachev warns Lithuanians against 'national wilderness'

VILNIUS (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev made an impassioned appeal to Lithuanians Saturday to ease back on their drive for total independence, telling them they were rushing towards a "nationalist wilderness."

"We need to think it over a thousand times before we embark on an independent drift with no compass, no map and no fuel," he told the Baltic republic's top Communists, themselves split between separatists and Moscow loyalists.

But there seemed little doubt that despite the combination of promise, cajoling and warnings of possible disaster he has used during three days in Lithuania, the vast majority of local people remained determined to push for secession.

The mood was summed up for Gorbachev at the meeting in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, by a Russian, Vasily Yemelyanov, editor-in-chief of the republic's

Russian-language party newspaper Sovetskaya Litva.

"The majority of the population of Lithuania is ready to sacrifice material well-being for the sake of the possibility of spiritual self-determination and political freedoms," he told the Kremlin chief.

Algirdas Brazauskas, "gentle giant" leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party, declared that despite Gorbachev's reform drive the Soviet party had changed little. "Time waits for no one, as life changes almost daily in our country," he said.

Under his leadership the Lithuanian party has broken with Moscow. A party congress voted by an overwhelming majority last month to declare the party a totally independent body.

Gorbachev ended his three-day visit to the once independent republic with joint talks with both the breakaway party, whose programme includes a "sovereign" Lithuania, and with

a loyalist rump.

The meeting, broadcast live on Lithuanian television, followed a cool response from powerful separatist forces. They have spurned Gorbachev's offer of a proposed law spelling out terms for orderly secession as "propaganda" and "a cheap lie."

Gorbachev, who is both chief of state and head of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), fared little better at the hands of his Lithuanian comrades.

Sitting in a semi-circle facing a hall of several hundred people, Gorbachev heard his party dismissed as too hidebound to compete — for votes or influence — in the whirlwind of modern Lithuanian politics.

Yemelyanov said Lithuanian communists had been forced into the split by Moscow's inability or unwillingness to accept rapid change.

"Not only was Stalinism discredited but the people completely

lost faith in the CPSU. It is a pity that our party has split but we simply could wait no longer," said Yemelyanov.

Reflecting the calm but determined mood of the gathering, he said there could be no going back on last month's decision.

"I believe annulling the decision would be the death of the Communist Party of Lithuania," Yemelyanov told Gorbachev, who took copious notes and occasionally gestured in response.

"Realities here are such that people have said, 'enough. We want to be Europeans.'"

The Lithuanians' unprecedented break with Moscow, approved last month by an overwhelming majority of party leaders, was in response to fears of being swamped in upcoming elections by the powerful, pro-independence Sajudis movement.

And Yemelyanov conceded the party had lost its place as the leading light in Lithuanian society.

Hurd pledges to push for Hong Kong democracy

HONG KONG (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Saturday that a timetable for direct elections in Hong Kong would be established in the next few weeks, despite strained ties with China.

Arriving in Hong Kong, Hurd also said the colony would continue its forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people even though the move has prompted widespread international condemnation.

Hurd said he expected ground rules to be set soon for elections in Hong Kong next year. China, which takes over the colony in 1997, has called efforts to speed up the democratisation of the territory a plot "to bring the Chinese government to its knees."

Hurd said that while Britain would consider Beijing's views, it would decide by itself how to proceed with the voting.

"We are not going to sit back as the British government passively and let the clock tick on," he told reporters at Hong Kong's international airport.

"Cool and considered" was how he described the way decisions will be made that will critically effect the lives of Hong Kong's 5.7 million people.

Communist China takes over Hong Kong in 1997 and has promised to preserve Hong Kong's free-wheeling economic and social system for at least 50 years. But confidence in China's promise evaporated after the bloody crackdown June 3-4 on the movement for democracy in Beijing.

Relations between Hong Kong and the mainland have sunk to their lowest level since the ultra-leftist cultural revolution of the 1960s. A series of disagreements between London and Beijing and pro-democracy agitation in Hong Kong have further worsened ties.

To complicate the issue, many in Hong Kong feel Britain has abandoned the colony and iskowling to the Beijing government. Protests are expected during Hurd's visit and security will be tight.

His visit, his first to Hong Kong as foreign secretary, follows unproductive meetings between Hong Kong's governor, Sir David Wilson, and Chinese leaders in Beijing. Wilson returned Friday and will confer with Hurd.

The governor had sharp exchanges with several Chinese leaders over the pace of democratic change in Hong Kong. Wilson called the talks "frank," and Hurd described them as "workman-like," diplomatic buzzwords for unsuccessful.

Time is running out for determining the future of the colony. A committee of Chinese-appointed officials is expected to complete by March the Basic Law, the blueprint for the territory after 1997.

The main point of contention concerns the pace and extent of democratisation in this colony, one of Asia's economic successes.

China wants only 30 per cent of the legislature, or 18 seats, elected after 1997 but Britain has been pushing for about 50 per cent.

The executive and legislative branches of Hong Kong's current government have called for at least 20 seats to be put up for election in 1991.

Senior Albanian official rejects reports of unrest

VIENNA (Agencies) — A leading member of the Albanian Communist Party has dismissed as Yugoslav-inspired slanders reports of a crackdown in his country to deter unrest.

Western and East Bloc diplomats in the capital Tirana said that life there appeared calm and normal with no signs of increased security measures.

Foto Cami, secretary of the Albanian party's central committee, told Tirana Radio and television Friday that Serbian nationalists in Yugoslavia were spreading the rumours to distract world attention from the plight of ethnic Albanians there.

"How do I assess them. I cannot find a better word than 'slanders,'" Foto told an interviewer according to the official Albanian ATA news agency monitored in Vienna.

"What aim is clear. They wish that what has occurred in the countries of the East happen in Albania too," he said referring to the wave of popular unrest that has broken the Communist grip

on power in Eastern Europe.

He said such rumours would only increase the resolve of the Albanian people: "They urge us to raise higher the vigilance to safeguard our freedom, independence and sovereignty."

Reports from Belgrade and Athens have spoken of a harsh crackdown deter unrest in Albania, the last outpost of Stalinist communism in Europe.

The Belgrade newspaper Politika reported Thursday that a state of emergency had been declared in the northern town of Shkoder and security had been stepped up around official residences in Tirana.

The Yugoslav national news agency Tanjug said Friday Albania had imposed security measures it said amounted to a state of emergency. But in later reports it quoted travellers from Albania as saying there were no visible signs of any emergency.

One diplomat, contacted in Tirana by telephone from Vienna, said a Western ambassador had visited Shkoder and found

life there to be continuing as normal. Other diplomats there said there were no signs of increased security in the capital.

Milica Milic, a reporter for Belgrade television from Yugoslavia's Kosovo province, which borders Albania, told the Associated Press that "frequent sound of firearms" was heard Friday from the direction of Albania.

Tanjung and Belgrade television said "something is apparently happening" in Albania, and that rare travellers from that country report "brutal" measures against dissent there.

"Albanian authorities in an effort to prevent unrest against the regime have imposed extremely strict control measures in the country," Tanjug said.

It said the security measures "can be termed a state of emergency," but did not say when the measures were allegedly imposed.

Tanjung gave no sources for its information, but Belgrade Television said its information came from unconfirmed reports from diplomats and travellers.

4 IRA suspects arrested after bid to buy Stinger

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (Agencies) — four people believed to be members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) have been arrested while attempting to purchase a heat-seeking anti-aircraft missile and other weapons, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has announced.

The four arrested Friday are believed to be members of the provisional faction of the IRA and were trying to gather weapons for terrorist activities outside the United States, said William Gavin, who heads the FBI in southern Florida.

"They made it very clear they were interested in procuring Stinger missiles and high explosives — and they intended to ship them out of the country," Gavin said at a news conference.

One of the men, Seamus Moley, allegedly paid undercover agents \$500,000 for the U.S.-made Stinger, a shoulder-carried, heat-seeking missile that has been used by rebels in Afghanistan and Nicaragua to attack helicopter gunships.

"One would have to believe if they had such an interest in pro-

curing this type of weaponry, they planned a terrorist act and probably against an aircraft," said Robert Creighton, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which conducted the two-month investigation with the FBI.

The men, three Irish citizens and a Canadian, were identified as members of the IRA, which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Creighton said the undercover agents posed as people selling weapons they had stolen from the military. "They led us to believe they were involved in the procurement of weapons before (for the IRA)," he said.

One of the suspects, Joseph Martin McColgan, 39, of Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland, proclaimed his innocence as the four were paraded in handcuffs before television cameras Friday night.

"I'm just a poor Irishman here on holiday and was trapped by certain people," he said. "Certain people offered to sell me a piece of equipment for the Irish

republican struggle."

Asked if he belonged to the IRA, Moley said: "Not at all. Don't be silly."

The other two Irish suspects were identified as Kevin Joseph McKinley, 33, of Riviera Beach, Florida, and Moley, 30, also of Riviera Beach. The Canadian suspect is Sean John McCann, 34, also a resident of Riviera Beach.

They were charged with conspiracy, possession of a destructive device, violations of arms export regulations and the U.S. neutrality law. If convicted, they could each face up to 25 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines.

The four were to appear before a U.S. magistrate in West Palm beach Tuesday afternoon.

In November 1986, five men were given prison sentences ranging from six to 18 months in Boston in a plot to buy arms, including a surface-to-air missile, for the IRA.

The men were arrested in May 1986 when they attempted to buy the missile, 100 M-16 automatic rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition from undercover FBI agents.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Katterson

SUMMING UP

By Norma Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Gap
- 2 At a distance
- 3 Hom sound
- 4 Johnson
- 5 High heat
- 6 Sealing red
- 7 Sully question
- 8 Mary or
- 9 Get short
- 10 Baby toy
- 11 Sault + Jolyp
- 12 Sault + Jolyp
- 13 Sault + Jolyp
- 14 Sault + Jolyp
- 15 Sault + Jolyp
- 16 Sault + Jolyp
- 17 Sault + Jolyp
- 18 Sault + Jolyp
- 19 Sault + Jolyp
- 20 Sault + Jolyp

DOWN

- 1 Gail from the
- 2 Gail from the
- 3 Gail from the
- 4 Gail from the
- 5 Gail from the
- 6 Gail from the
- 7 Gail from the
- 8 Gail from the
- 9 Gail from the
- 10 Gail from the
- 11 Gail from the
- 12 Gail from the
- 13 Gail from the
- 14 Gail from the
- 15 Gail from the
- 16 Gail from the
- 17 Gail from the
- 18 Gail from the
- 19 Gail from the
- 20 Gail from the

Diagramless

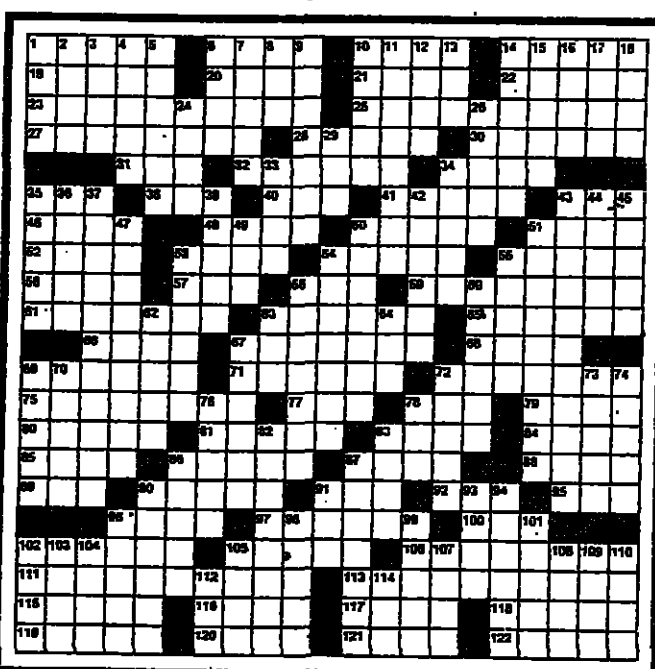
19 X 19, By Martha J. De Wit

ACROSS

- 1 Box
- 2 Wash
- 3 Porridge
- 4 Church
- 5 Locations
- 6 Thawed
- 7 Another dog
- 8 Shallow places
- 9 Southern
- 10 Put back
- 11 Seemingly
- 12 Coffee type
- 13 Made do with
- 14 Catch unwares
- 15 Loop
- 16 Heavy Vira's
- 17 See bird
- 18 Foss
- 19 Long time

DOWN

- 1 Dudge
- 2 Fix roads
- 3 Avoid
- 4 Made like new
- 5 Pliable
- 6 Facile
- 7 Decent abuse
- 8 Pit
- 9 Put to use
- 10 Memo
- 11 Canned game
- 12 Slinger Dolly
- 13 Domicile
- 14 No longer
- 15 Active abbr.
- 16 Fidelity
- 17 Unleash to
- 18 Area
- 19 Earn
- 20 Pot source
- 21 Hidden
- 22 Sign
- 23 Diminutive
- 24 Mushroom
- 25 Was present
- 26 Male deer
- 27 Pigeon
- 28 Voice vote
- 29 Stammer
- 30 Slices
- 31 Give out
- 32 He's
- 33 The Thinker
- 34 Havellores
- 35 Turn
- 36 Reluctant
- 37 Thilled ladies
- 38 Furniture worker
- 39 Goat units
- 40 Made
- 41 Beloved
- 42 Play host
- 43 Tiny thing
- 44 Horse
- 45 Decade
- 46 Eng. novelist
- 47 Swiss city
- 48 Relative
- 49 Latvian city



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. People say they can forecast winter weather by the stripes of the woolly bear caterpillar.
2. Brock young chef severely placed at a cookbook, then whipped up a gourmet feast for his critics without it.
3. Sweet and buoyant viola strings of a gypsy vagabond keep for us all.
4. Tired chicken king hires vagabond worker to help clean new coops.

CRYPTOGRAMS

I TO GO ILIHSOUR WALI MIAMI WGR, "PA
WALINKTES, IDIO TZ TYN CHAOS"
MAYNTUTGOW, I ZTOP, HIMYGUI "IDIO"
CTNK "IWMITGYR." —By Len Sherry

2 LUDCAEL SDS'T OPRATTADE SKOS KY
TSOUSYF SKELEASADE KOP KAR CATKAE
KY KOPESH —By Barbara J. Rugg

3 DPOISRLTF YUEFRIN KTRIN SXAYO PAIN
SB EAGGOMERUPY FOODY SXO
MOLMROMUSAM YXOPBOY EPOUIOK ALL —By Lois H. Jones

4 BALK MLOURKL MANY PE BUI SAAY ANY
SLOW FOLK FORM FORMKL ORWPALE —By Ed Haddleton

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

